FBIS DAILY REPORT

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Vol III No 093 *12 May 1983*

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AFP CITES NOVOSTI ITEM ON NEW GENERATION MISSILE

NC111231 Paris AFP in English 1226 GMT 11 May 83

[Excerpt] Moscow, May 11 (AFP) -- The Soviet Union apparently threatened today to deploy a new generation of missile called the SS-40 if the United States goes ahead with plans to accelerate its arms buildup.

"According to (U.S. President Ronald) Reagan, the adversary's horse is a half-length ahead," wrote semi-official political observer Genadiy Gerassimov in a dispatch by the NOVOSTI news agency. "But he can accelerate too," Mr Gerassimov wrote. "Thus to the SS-20's and similar missiles can be added the SS-40's and similar missiles. But will this reinforce the security of one or the other?"

However, Western specialists in Moscow said they had never heard of the SS-40 missile. "The SS-40 does not exist," one expert flatly said.

One diplomat said the Soviets may have used a rhetorical flourish to say that if the U.S. keeps on insisting that it must catch up with Soviet armed might, the USSR will counter by deploying a missile much more powerful than the SS-20. The SS-20 is an intermediate-range nuclear missile deployed in Eastern Europe and aimed at Western Europe.

Mr Gerassimov, reiterating the official Soviet view that parity exists between the two superpowers, said the Soviet Union is "against military rivalry and for an end to the nuclear arms race." He added that his country would nevertheless rise to any American challenge in matters of nuclear weaponry.

'SINCERITY' OF ANDROPOV PROPOSALS PRAISED

LD111818 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 11 May 83

[Viktor Levin commentary]

[Text] The position of the Soviet Union set out by Comrade Andropov again confirms the sincere and honest aspiration of our country to free the European Continent completely from nuclear weapons, both medium-range and tactical. This, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee stressed, is the real route to a nonnuclear Europe, and clearly all states in this region that have nuclear weapons must pass this way.

During the last year and half alone, the Soviet Union has put forward a number of initiatives directed toward achieving this aim. We are proposing an optimal version, an agreement, that there should be neither medium-range nor tactical nuclear weapons in Europe, and partial but radical measures intended to start the movement toward a nonnuclear Europe.

It is well known that at present, each side in Europe has approximately 1,000 units of medium-range nuclear weapons. The Soviet Union has proposed reducing this number to 300 units. In this case the Soviet Union is prepared to have only 162 missiles remaining for itself as a result of cuts, that is, only what Britain and France have now. An equal low level of 138 units is also proposed for carrier aircraft.

On 3 May, Comrade Andropov put forward complementary measures of prime importance to this proposal. Insofar as it was being affirmed in the West that if the number of missiles and carrier aircraft were equal the Soviet Union would allegedly have an advantage in nuclear warheads on missiles, our country stated its willingness to reach agreement on the equality of nuclear potential in Europe in terms of both launchers and warheads, taking into account, naturally, the corresponding weapons of Britain and France.

In this way it was again demonstrated, convincingly and clearly, that we are not seeking unilateral advantages for ourselves and that the Soviet Union does not consider talks as a means of attaining military superiority, but that we are honestly seeking a mutually acceptable basis for agreement on the principles of equality and equal security of both sides. The Soviet Union's position is honest and constructive. Only he who wants to deploy the new American nuclear missiles in West Europe at any price, and thus break the balance of power which has come about both in Europe and on a global scale, can refuse to accept such a proposal.

To those who are fostering militarist plans, we say quite frankly: The Soviet Union will not allow the balance to be broken and will take the necessary measures so that parity is maintained. But all the Soviet people would like it to be maintained not at a higher level, but at the lowest possible level. This is our policy.

REAGAN PLAN ON ABM DEPLOYMENT CONDEMNED

Vasilyev Commentary

LD111332 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 10 May 83

[Text] And now a commentary by our observer Aleksey Vasilyev on President Reagan's project to set up a space-based system of anti-ballistic missile defense:

It is at first glance that the concept of strategic defense appears to have nothing bad about it, and that it can protect the civilian population against nuclear destruction. But things are just the other way round in actual fact. Antiballistic weapons will inevitably entail a development of more sophisticated kinds of offensive weaponry. And this is why the arms race may escalate to ever more dangerous dimension. It is for this reason that the Soviet Union and the United States concluded in 1972 a treaty on limiting the antimissile defense system. Significantly, the two countries concluded an agreement on limiting offensive strategic weapons, still in effect to this day. In other words, a development of anti-missile weapons is closely connected with a development of offensive weapons. This is why the conclusion in 1972 of the Soviet-American treaty of unlimited duration to restrict antiballistic missile defenses is a positive factor in what concerns the raising of barriers in the way of a nuclear arms race.

We might just as well recall that after the signing of the antiballistic missile defense treaty there were Soviet-American meetings held within the framework of that treaty, to further the implementation of its provisions. At the last meeting, held at the end of 1982, the United States pledged its readiness to abide by the treaty. But what happens now. President Reagan's intention to focus on a new antimissile system and its deployment in outer space undermines the very foundation of the Soviet-American treaty commitments. One should also take into account in what context the White House puts forward this project on antiballistic defenses in space. As is known, President Reagan made it clear that the United States (?might) be the first to use nuclear weapons in Europe.

He advanced obviously unacceptable proposals at the nuclear arms talks and under this guise is going ahead with programs for U.S. nuclear disarmament [by] envisaging the deployment of new strategic offensive systems, both in the United States and in Western Europe and other regions. And now an antiballistic systems in space! In other words, the White House is to implement its plans for military superiority, which would enable the United States to unleash war and get away with it.

Needless to say, this approach by the present American leadership towards nuclear weapons harbors great danger for all the peoples, including the American people. President Reagan, by advancing this project for antiballistic systems in outer space, just shows his irresponsible attitude to the problems of nuclear arms control and averting nuclear war. Let us recall that the antimissile defense treaty, signed by the Soviet Union and the United States in 1972, bans the development and deployment of space-based antimissile systems. So the American President questions in this case the American pledge to abide by the treaty. Furthermore, by ordering the development of space antimissile systems, President Reagan undermines the pledges which the United States undertook under international agreements.

His very attitude to interstate agreements becomes doubtful.

If President Reagan's concept is realized this will escalate the arms race to still higher levels in all kinds of strategic weaponry, both offensive and defensive. This is the real message, the other side of Washington's defense concept. General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party Yuriy Andropov noted this in his interview for the newspaper PRAVDA last March. The present American Administration, he underlined, pursues an extremely dangerous road. One cannot show such a light-hearted approach to the issue of war and peace.

PRAVDA Article

PM111048 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 May 83 First Edition p 5

[Dispatch by PRAVDA correspondent A. Tolkunov: "Space Fraud"]

[Text] New York, May [no date given] -- Washington's plans to militarize outer space and develop so-called "defense superweapons" against a nuclear strike have caused serious concern in the United States. By presenting the decision to develop space-based antimissile weapons as "concern" on the part of the White House incumbent for "mankind's deliverance" from the nuclear threat, militarist circles are obviously attempting to reduce the intensity of the antiwar movement. The big guns of the military-industrial complex have been brought into action -- for example, an "expert" such as E. Teller, "father of the hydrogen bomb." "Reagan," he says, praising the President, "has shown true understanding of historic prospects. This will be a gain not only for our children, but for our allies' children, and a gain for Soviet children."

The "hawks" have also stepped up their activity on Capitol Hill. Thus Wyoming Senator M. Wallop, a well-known advocate of U.S. nuclear superiority, requested his colleagues to grant without delay legislative approval for the funding of "antimissile superweapons."

Massachussets Senator [illegible] Tsongas, however, reasonably considers that this "concern" for future generations is nothing but the start of a new and most dangerous round of the arms race, which is bringing the world to the brink of nuclear disaster. This is why he, together with other legislators, has called on the administration to take immediate steps to draft a treaty to ban the deployment of all kinds of weapons in outer space -- something which the Soviet Union is also insistently urging.

Scientists are also having their weighty say. In the opinion of Nobel Prize winner C. Townes, a well-known expert in laser technology, "there is no technological solution to the problem of delivering mankind from nuclear weapons." He, just like many of his other colleagues, sees only one way to eliminate this danger -- immediate and constructive agreements to limit and reduce strategic arms and strengthen trust between the sides. It is precisely here that the White House has insufficient understanding of historic prospects.

Indeed, if we look at the recent past we can trace how the development of antimissile defenses has spurred the development of new strategic offensive systems, observer T. Wicker wrote in the pages of THE NEW YORK TIMES.

This is why Senator C. Pell, expressing skepticism about R. Reagan's "historic initiative," declared: "Everything indicates that this time, too, we are falling into the same trap."

It is no accident that the decision to embark on the development of "defense superweapons" coincided with the approach of the time for the deployment of U.S. medium-range nuclear weapons in Western Europe. Having deployed them there, the United States, according to the illusions with which some deplorable local strategists console themselves, would acquire a significant advantage after the deployment of space-based ABM systems: in a few minutes the Pershing-II's would be able to reach the Soviet Union's territory but the retaliatory strike against U.S. territory would be "neutralized" by the ABM system. But many U.S. specialists justly claim that the plans for "absolute" space defenses constitute a deliberate deception of the U.S. people, and deception of cosmic dimensions at that. The entire history of armaments shows that for each weapon there will be a counterweapon, just as for each lock there will be a master key.

The ABM plans are exceptionally dangerous for the general process of arms limitation talks. As people here note, implementation of the plans to develop "defense superweapons" would lead to a direct breach of the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Limitation of ABM Systems which is now in force. Article 5 of this treaty bans not just the deployment but even the development of space-based ABM facilities. In this connection President Reagan's declaration that his attempt to achieve a turning point in defensive technology would be "compatible with our (the U.S. -- editor's note) obligations under the ABM treaty" is nothing but a confusion of public opinion and preparation of the ground for the breaking of existing agreements.

The development of space-based military laser installations, according to the conclusion reached by many scientists and experts in military strategy here, would inevitably undermine the possibility of reaching agreement in other spheres of arms control.

Acclaiming the present presidential decision, D. Graham, former chief of the Pentagon's intelligence agency, who is one of the initiators in establishing the so-called "high frontier" program for deploying military installations in outer space, declared without beating about the bush that it is an attempt by the United States to achieve military superiority way beyond the clouds.

And so, while it is tempting for the uninitiated at first glance, the idea of developing ABM systems conceals an intention to shift the arms race to outer space and threaten mankind from there. This idea is imbued with the same old U.S. desire to achieve military superiority over the USSR. The Washington leaders are not giving up the accumulation of offensive strategic weapons, either.

President Reagan has approved the Scowcroft commission's recommendations calling for immediate deployment of 100 MX missiles and of submarine-launched Trident and Trident-II missile systems, as well as the development of the new Midgetman mobile ICBM. The plans to strengthen the U.S. nuclear potential cover the period from the present until the 1990's. In other words, they will basically be implemented at the same time as Washington's intended development of an effective ABM system.

The U.S. intention to add a nuclear "shield" to its nuclear "lance" has but one goal -- to deprive the other side of the possibility of delivering a retaliatory nuclear strike and to disarm the Soviet Union in the face of the U.S. military threat. This would not only open the road to nuclear blackmail by Washington, but would also lead to a headlong race in all types of strategic arms, offensive as well as defensive.

Physics professor H. Bethe, one of the U.S. scientists who signed the message to Yu.V. Andropov, warns that such militarist plans will lead not only to a final breakdown in trust between the sides, but also to a sharp increase in the risk of a military conflict which could evolve into a nuclear conflagration. Thus, it is not a "peaceful future" that the U.S. President is presenting to our children, but the greatest of alarms.

Professor Howard Parsons of the University of Bridgeport described the concept of the possibility of defense against a nuclear strike which has been put forward by the U.S. Administration as being absurd and dangerous. If such a system is brought into operation, in the professor's opinion, it will render impossible any serious talks on disarmament. Yu.V. Andropov's proposal to organize a meeting between Soviet and U.S. scientists during which they could discuss the possible consequences of the development of large-scale ABM defense is, in Parsons' view, reasonable and realistic. This proposal, he believes, must be carefully studied by the U.S. Administration.

NUCLEAR WEAPONS BALANCE IN EUROPE DISCUSSED

LD112357 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland

[By observer Konstantin Sorokin]

[Text] Whenever Moscow makes new arms-control proposals, the western reaction almost invariably follows the same pattern. This is a step forward on the Soviet side and it must be earnestly studied, we are told. A classic example of the NATO attitude to proposals from the other side was provided by Mrs Thatcher's response to Soviet initiatives last December, when the Soviet Union proposed the talks on intermediate-range nuclear arms in Europe, that NATO and the USSR both make equal cuts from nearly 1,000 to 300 missiles and airborne-launch vehicles. When the British prime minister was told of the new Soviet proposals, she first said they were unacceptable and only then asked what their substance was. Shortly afterwards, to save face, it was said the Soviet initiative would be seriously studied. Evidently, it is still being studied.

Now the Soviet Union has made a new proposal which provides for both sides having equal numbers of both launch vehicles of all types and of warheads. The principle of equality is built into it so clearly that it is evident to anyone. It also meets the Western complaint that the Soviet Union has more nuclear warheads because the missiles known in the West as SS-20 have three warheads each.

Actually, the complaint was unfounded, since in a single launch, NATO can deliver 50 percent more warheads to Soviet territory than the Soviet Union can deliver to targets in Western Europe. To be sure, the Soviet Union has somewhat more warheads on its missiles, but it must be remembered that the British Polaris missiles likewise carry three warheads each. And in the near future, they are to be replaced with Trident missiles carrying no fewer than eight warheads each.

As for the French missiles, they are already being upgraded to carry seven warheads each instead of one. France has also begun building a new submarine with 16 missiles, each carrying 7 warheads. And NATO aircraft like the Vulcan, the F-111, and the Mirage-4 [as heard] can also carry more than one nuclear bomb. The West thus has an appreciable superiority in arms types. The Soviet Union's readiness to accept equality in warheads as well as the launch vehicles places the West in a difficult position. To fail to notice the Soviet initiative after so much talk about the need for equality in warheads would be embarrassing. It would at once become obvious that the question had been raised only to delay the talks. To accept it would mean addressing the problem of the West's 50 percent superiority in nuclear warheads and to bring into question the British and French modernization of their nuclear forces, which is to increase the number of their warheads four-fold. Hence, the formula: a stpe in the right direction, but. The but this time is to be the argument that the British and French independent nuclear forces must not be taken into account. But how can one speak of the independence of members of a bloc? One of those members, Britain, is fully integrated in the NATO military structure and targets its missiles and aircraft according to directions from the Strategic Air Command in Omaha in the United States. The other, France, has also targeted its weapons on the Soviet Union and keeps saying that in the event of a conflict in Europe no one should doubt which side France will take.

But even if these forces were independent and intended to deter the Soviet Union, why should the Soviet Union be denied the right to deter, say, a decision by these NATO members to attack the USSR on their own? And in any case, the Soviet Union is entitled to have a counterweight to the American forward-base systems and to the European nuclear forces. Naturally, the fewer weapons there are targeted on the Soviet Union, the smaller will be the counterweight required to offset them.

U.S. MISSILES 'CRIPPLING POTENTIAL' TO SECURITY

WA120930 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 19 15-22 May (Signed to Press 3 May 83) p 5

[Article by Nikolay Portugalov entitled: "The Lesson of a Gamble" -- article is preceded by following subhead set off in boldface: "What Would Have Happened If, During the Time of the American Rangers' Iranian Gamble, the USA Had Had Pershing-2 Missiles in Europe!"]

[Text] The end of April marked three years since the day when, on President Carter's secret order, American rangers is six helicopters made an attempt to free more than 50 Americans whom the followers of Ayatollah Khomeini were holding hostage (for more than six months already at that time) in the U.S. Embassy in Teheran. Readers remember how that action ended: having failed to reach the Iranian capital, the helicopters strayed off course in a sand storm, met with an accident and made a forced landing, one of them burning along with its crew. With great difficulty the American command managed to evacuate its landing party from Iran.

The question arises: today is it worthwhile recalling that abortive military-political gamble of the Carter administration? "Feats" of this kind, like milestones, mark the entire course of U.S. policy in the postwar decades, the only differences being in the scale of the "operations" and the amount of bloodshed involved. I believe it is worthwhile, because this event, as inglorious as it is instructive, is also highly topical in light of the development of U.S. strategic concepts over the past three years. The findings of the West European press (notably, the Hamburg weekly DER SPIEGEL) have thrown new light on this whole unseemly story.

Nuclear Alert at Lakenheath

On the morning of April 24, 1980 a standby alert was sounded at the American Lakenheath air base in Britain: 97 F-111 medium-range bombers with atom bombs on board lined up wing to wing on the runways. The engines roared ominously. Planes of this type are capable of hitting targets deep inside Soviet territory.

The American leadership was aware that in the epoch of satellites a combat alert at Lakenheath will not go unnoticed by the Soviet side. But this time Washington did not even bother to conceal anything, this was a menacing gesture: the USA wanted to demonstrate its readiness to deliver the so-called preemptive nuclear strike at targets in the Soviet Union if, in the course of the American venture in Iran, things came to the point of a "direct clash between the great powers". The scenario worked out in the Pentagon -- one of those delirious schemes which the American big brass are so fond of -- envisaged precisely such an eventuality.

The 97 F-111 bombers, like other U.S. medium-range systems now deployed in Europe (their total number being about 1,000), formally come under NATO control, but Washington not only failed to consult its European allies when announcing the standby alert at Lakenheath (which was not lifted until the fiasco of the "Iranian operation" was over); it did not even inform them about it.

Not long before that, in January 1980, Carter had said in Congress that the Persian Gulf was henceforth to be considered a "zone of U.S. vital interests" and that any attempt by a third power to "establish control" over that zone would be assessed as an attack on the USA, which would be countered with all possible means, including the use of armed force. Shortly afterwards plans were made for the formation of the Rapid Deployment Force, for possible actions in the Middle East. And in February of that year reports were leaked to the press about a Pentagon document which said that because the Force would be incapable of stopping Soviet troops if they were to "invade Iran", it was necessary to envisage preventive use of American tactical nuclear weapons at an early stage of any such conflict in the region.

If Pershing-2's Replaced the F-111's

All this seems to be in the past, although not too dim or too distant a past. The trouble is that over the last three years American strategy in the Middle East has become even more irresponsible and the consequences which this bears for Western Europe are even more ominous. And it is altogether horrifying to think what a gamble like the "Iranian raid" can lead to, if new American medium-range missiles are deployed in the European NATO countries at Washington's will.

As compared to Reagan's rangers with their impudence in questions of life and death for states and nations, the Carter administration's actions still could, paradoxical as it may sound, be taken as an example of reasonable prudence. Indeed, the F-111's as a medium-range system are capable of delivering a "preemptive nuclear strike", but they certainly cannot be regarded as an additional potential for an American first strike against the Soviet Union, delivered from Europe, as the Pershing-2's, in combination with cruise missiles, would become.

Under Weinberger the Pentagon's new directives have gone far beyond all that was said by his predecessor, Brown, with regard to "limited nuclear war", which it is allegedly possible to win. Under Carter these views were only vaguely outlined, while now they have entered international affairs weightily, rudely and visibly.

Let us turn to the sources: the authors of the Pentagon directives which were published by THE NEW YORK TIMES on May 30, 1982, proceed from the possibility of a protracted "limited war" between the USA and the Soviet Union, for which the Americans must possess superiority in every military field. The report of Defense Secretary Weinberger on the 1983 military budget contains the thesis that in the event of a conflict in the Middle East the USA must start combat operations on other fronts as well. In this connection the Secretary, incidentally, mentioned Poland as a "weak link in the Soviet defense system". Thus, the future of hundreds of millions of Europeans is literally hanging by such a thin thread as "stability" in the Middle East (which remains at the mercy of Washington and Tel Aviv). In this way the USA wants to include its NATO allies in the struggle for U.S. "vital interests" -- ensuring for itself exclusive access to the mineral treasure troves of the Middle East and other regions of the Third World.

This is no longer a mere strategy of escalation but a policy of geographic escalation. It is not difficult to imagine that if NATO's "two-track decision" is put into effect, in the event of complications in the Middle East not only the F-111 crews in Europe will be put on alert, but also the crews of the Pershing-2 missiles of the U.S. 56th Artillery Brigade in Heilbronn and Neu-Ulm in the FRG, and the mobile cruise missile launchers will be placed on standby alert in Sicily, on the Eifel Hills near the Rhine and in Britain. These are high-precision first strike weapons virtually invulnerable because of their mobility, and the Pershing-2 missiles are capable of practically instantaneous action or, as they love to say in the Pentagon, they are "crippling" weapons. And this entire arsenal will no longer be subordinated to NATO, even on a formal basis!

One More Coil in the 'Spiral of the Unthinkable'

Let us trace in our mind's eye one more coil in the "spiral of the unthinkable". It is no secret that with a productivity no less than that of Hollywood the Pentagon is continuing to turn out scenarios of various kinds of military conflicts in the Middle East, one after another. All these dramatic works, flavoured as they are with a generous dose of hypocrisy, begin -- of all things -- with some bellicose or menacing act on the part of the Soviet Union (see, for instance, the secret Pentagon's document published by UPI on March 29). But they will not mislead anyone. In real life everything is simpler and

more horrible than in the "Pentagon cinema". What if, after some incident in one of the Arab countries -- where the hatred for the Americans is no less than the fuel beneath the sands -- let us say, after an explosion in one of the American embassies there, as was recently the case in Beirut, or something like it, the Washington "hawks" persuade the President that it is time to act. And they really begin to act and "escalate" all the way to "preventive nuclear strikes", even if on the tactical level? What then?

What in this case will remain for the Soviet Union to do to ensure its own security, the life of its people and its allies? There is but one answer -- the Soviet Union will be compelled to "neutralize", immediately and reliably, the additional American first strike capability in Europe -- the Pershing-2 and cruise missiles if they are deployed by that time. Europe will hardly take an interest in the end of the scenario.

In an interview with Rudolf Augstein, publisher of DER SPIEGEL magazine, Yuri Andropov warned the NATO countries, stressing that in the event of the deployment of more than 500 new American nuclear missiles close to our borders, the Soviet Union's retaliatory measures both in regard to U.S. territory and in regard to Europe "will be justified from any point of view, even according to the highest moral standards".

Pershing-2 missiles are the backbone of the American-planned "crippling potential" in Europe. It is intended to locate them in the FRG, whose current leaders willingly call themselves the "grandsons of Adenauer". But have they forgotten that their "political grandfather", who had no sympathy for the Soviet Union, nonetheless did not lose his sense of realism and circumspection. In 1957, after the Suez gamble by his NATO allies, he flatly refused to consent to the deployment of the American Thor and Jupiter medium-range missiles in West Germany. Let us add that this was a time when Bonn was almost totally dependent on Washington, while Thor resembles the Pershing-2 about as much as an old carbine resembles the modern automatic rifle!

Such are only a few of the sad thoughts suggested by the inglorious third anniversary of the American action to free the hostages in Teheran. It is reasonable to believe that such thoughts are not alien to West Europeans either.

TIKHONOV CABLES PROPERTY ORGANIZATION HEAD

LD111824 Moscow TASS in English 1709 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Moscow May 11 TASS -- Nikolay Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, has sent a message to Arpad Bogsch, director-general of the World Intellectual Property Organisation.

"The Paris convention on protection of industrial property has made considerable contribution in a 100-year period to expanding and deepening international cooperation," the message points out. "Participation in the convention of states with different social and economic systems imparted to it a truly world character."

"The Government of the USSR," the message says, "expresses the hope that the Paris convention in the second century of its existence will be broader used by countries for reciprocal exchanges of technology, expansion of international trade, deepening of scientific and technical cooperation in the interests of universal peace and progress.

It is maintained in the Soviet Union that the development of provisions in the Paris convention which would better encourage greater creative activity of inventors of new technology, establishment and development of the national economy, as well as reflection in it of new forms of protection of industrial property, peculiar to different economic systems of the participating countries, will help strengthen its prestige and its positive role in international cooperation."

APN ARTICLE DISCUSSES U.S. NAVAL DEPLOYMENT

AU101630 Warsaw ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI in Polish 6 May 83 p 4

[Lt. Gen. Mikhail Kiryna APN article 'especially for ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI': "Oceans in the Plans of Imperialism"]

[Text] In terms of military activity, sea areas are gaining increasing importance in the aggressive military and strategic plans of the imperialists. Because of arms development, and especially as a result of the fact that specific fleets are equipped with new weapons and as a result of the intruduction of nuclear energy, military actions could practically cover the whole world under the present conditons. Aggressive imperialist circles are making intensive preparations for combat activity in all the oceans and seas. New naval bases are being established in ports where considerable naval strength is to be found.

In 1971, the United States announced a so-called "ocean strategy" as an integral part of the "strategy of flexible response." The main aim of this strategy is to transfer a contingent of strategic nuclear forces from land to wide areas of ocean. In this connection, much effort has been devoted to developing naval forces and using their potential as a basic support for the aggressive policy of American imperialism. According to U.S. leaders, oceanic strategy should make it possible to deploy numerous nuclear missile systems throughout the waters of the world, which would ensure a hypothetical nuclear strike against the enemy from various directions, would make the systems unmatchable, and would also reduce the number of nuclear strikes against the United States to a minimum and minimize the danger of radioactive fallout in the United States.

In order to achieve these goals, the naval forces of the United States are constantly to be found in all oceans. In the Atlantic, there is the 2d Fleet (with 7 aircraft carriers, 105 warships, 43 nuclear submarines, and 720 combat aircraft), and the 6th Fleet (with 1 aircraft carrier, 14 warships, 5 nuclear submarines, and 94 combat aircraft). In the Pacific, there is the 3d Fleet (with 3 aircraft carriers, 80 warships, 30 nuclear submarines, and 552 combat aircraft) and the 7th Fleet (with 1 aircraft carrier, 21 warships, 5 submarines, and 262 combat aircraft). In the Indian Ocean, there are 2 aircraft carriers, 17 warships, 3 nuclear submarines, and about 180 combat aircraft. According to the U.S. regular naval forces program, the total number of ships is intended to reach 600 this decade (not counting the considerably greater number of ships in reserve).

In the United States, a theory has been worked out for dominating the seas, or, to be more precise, all the world's oceans. This theory has assumed an openly aggressive nature since the creation of a strategic nuclear missile system in the United States based on submarines. Supremacy of the seas mainly involves the following: unbreakable control over underwater, surface and air movements in the most important areas of the world and an ability to destroy the enemy's naval potential. In other words, the American fleet is transforming itself into a "policeman" of the seas to fit the theory.

Concerning Europe, supremacy of the seas means strengthening the northern and southern wings of NATO. In its aim to strengthen the southern wing of the North Atlantic pact, American imperialism is striving to gain hegemony in the Mediterranean, where any given situation has always been a factor influencing the general structure of events in Western Europe, the Balkans, the Middle East, and North Africa. In oppositon to the interests of the Mediterranean states, the United States has stationed its 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean on permanent duty.

The U.S. actions aimed at turning the Mediterranean into a closed "American lake" are causing firm opposition among the countries in this region and are also creating unease among the Warsaw Pact states. In the spirit of the CSCE Final Act which was signed in Helsinki, the Warsaw Pact states have proposed a reduction in the armed forces in this region, the withdrawal of warships with nuclear weapons from the Mediterranean, and a commitment not to deploy nuclear weapons in this region.

The establishment of a separate NATO command in the English Channel area responsible for guaranteeing maritime links in the channel and in the southern part of the North Sea is directly serving to strengthen the northern wing of NATO. In peacetime, a fleet of minesweepers from the navies of a number of northern NATO countries is in constant service with this command, and if hostile activities break out, it is planned to place the ships and aircraft of the British, Belgian and Netherlands Navies at the command's disposal. One of the tasks of the naval forces of the North Atlantic pact located in the Atlantic is to block the Soviet fleet's entry routes into the Atlantic.

In order to weaken the military preparations in northern Europe, the Soviet Union has placed its support behind Finland's initiative to turn northern Europe into a nuclear-free zone. The Soviet Union has expressed its readiness to commit itself not to use nuclear weapons against the northern European countries inside the nuclear-free zone. In addition, the USSR opposes the increasingly energetic efforts to drag Norway into the NATO race.

The American military presence in the Indian and Pacific Oceans has considerably increased in recent years. The number of U.S. warships there has increased and work on establishing new land and sea bases has been stepped up. The most modern warships are being sent there, including nuclear submarines and destroyers armed with improved types of nuclear weapons. Washington has said that the ships stationed in this area have missiles capable of carrying both conventional and nuclear warheads. There are already enough nuclear weapons concentrated in the Pacific and Indian Oceans to totally annihilate mankind and the plant and animal world if they are used.

The naval base on the island of Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean is being turned into a very important base for the "rapid deployment forces" in accordance with the plans of the American leadership and is being developed constantly.

The United States is demanding that Japan commit itself to "defend" the northwestern part of the Pacific to a distance of over 1,000 km from the Japanese coast. This would make it possible for the United States to transfer part of its 7th Fleet from the northern part of the Pacific to the Indian Ocean. The United States supports the Japanese leadership's plans to prepare military forces capable of blocking international maritime straits "if exceptional circumstances arise" so that the Soviet fleet's exit from the Sea of Japan to the Pacific would be "corked up."

The Persian Gulf states are literally part of a string of American artillery and missiles. In this way, the Pentagon is trying to turn the Persian Gulf into a "Maginot Line," into a so-called "free world," a cordon of neocolonialism and a dam against the flood of national liberation movements.

It is very clear from the above that the military preparations in the Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf are not in the least a regional problem. These preparations are a direct threat to the 36 nations in the Indian Ocean area and to one-quarter of the globe's population.

This is why the Warsaw Pact states believe that the problems in the Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean are closely connected with the struggle for peace and for the prevention of war throughout the world. The Warsaw Pact states have put forward concrete proposals aimed at turning the Indian Ocean into a peace zone and at settling the situation in the Persian Gulf area. The Soviet leaders declare that the USSR is ready to resume at any moment the negotiations on restricting military activity in the Indian Ocean which have been broken through the fault of the United States, and it sees no obstacles in the way of similar measures concerning the Pacific.

Thus, the American strategy of dominating the oceans of the world is a clear reflection of U.S. imperialism's aim to dominate the entire world, which creates the danger of the outbreak of World War III. That is why the socialist countries, and all the progressive forces of our globe as well, are so firmly opposed to this supremacy.

AMERICANS SAID FAVORING COOPERATION WITH USSR

LD092210 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1300 GMT 8 May 83

[From the Vremya newscast; report by Washington correspondent A. Druzhinin: "U.S. War Veterans Favor Cooperation in the Interests of Peace"]

[Text] Victory Day is not marked officially in the United States. Ask Americans belonging to the postwar generations what they know about World War II and Soviet-U.S. cooperation in battle to crush Hitler's Germany and most of them will show an amazing ignorance about recent historical facts. U.S. propaganda has spared no effort to erase from people's memories the joint struggle by the Soviet Union and the United States against fascism. Nonetheless, despite the anti-Soviet hysteria which has become particularly strong since the Reagan administration came to power, and despite the hostility toward the Soviet Union, which is being artificially whipped up by Washington, there is no small number of people in the United States who well remember the times when the United States and the Soviet Union were allies united by the common aim of delivering the world from the threat of fascism.

An exhibition of drawings by wartime artists opened recently in Washington. It provides a graphic recollection of the great sacrifices made by the peoples of the countries in the anti-Hiterlite coalition in the name of victory and compels one to ponder the need to do everything possible to prevent a new war. But this modest exhibition is not the only evidence of antiwar moods among Americans. An increasing number of Americans are coming to the conclusion that cooperation among the Soviet Union, the United States, and other states in the name of peace and their joint efforts aimed at ending the arms race and reducing international tension is the only way to avoid a new military catastrophe even more terrible than the wars already endured by mankind. This is what Rear Admiral (Eugene Carroll), retired, a veteran of World War II, had to say:

[Begin Carroll video recording in English with superimposed translation] The Soviet Union and the United States stood shoulder to shoulder as friends and allies in the bloody war against fascism. They achieved a joint victory over the enemy, and my greatest wish now is that cooperation between our countries should be renewed in the interests of peace. Confrontation between two great peoples -- the Soviet and American peoples -- will not benefit anyone, but cooperation between them has always promoted the strengthening of peace and has served the whole of mankind. Remember the cooperation between our two countries in the conquering of space. Remember the fruitful contacts between our scientists.

In my view there is an urgent necessity for relations between our countries to be built, just as when we were allies, on a basis that will bring us closer together, and not create conditions for conflicts and military confrontation. [end video recording]

OPPOSING TRADE AS POLITICAL WEAPON 'INTENSIFYING'

LD061440 Moscow TASS in English 1236 GMT 6 May 83

[Text] Washington May 6 TASS -- There are signs of intensifying opposition to the desire of the Reagan administration to notably broaden out its powers in using trade as a political weapon at the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives, which is currently studying the issue of extending the term of the Export Control Act.

The White House has come up with a series of substantive additions to the Export Control Act which would give the administration virtually unlimited powers to resort to trade and economic sanctions under the pretext of attaining foreign policy aims. U.S. Under Secretary of Commerce Lionel Olmer, who appeared before the committee Thursday, said that such measures were directed both against the socialist countries and the U.S. allies who defied Washington's diktat and were striving to develop normal trade relations with the countries of Eastern Europe, and were called upon to serve the ultimate form of punishment and influence second only to military actions.

Clement Zablocki, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, criticised the position of the White House which, in his words, "was placing itself in the role of a bully in the street". He pointed out it was senseless to take such measures and cited by way of an example last year's steps of the administration devised to impede the construction of the western Siberia -- Western Europe gas pipeline. Incidentally, Lionel Olmer had to agree with that. He said that the restrictions on the supply of equipment to the Soviet Union had failed to bring Washington the desired results.

Lee Hamilton, a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, stressed that both the grain "embargo" introduced by President Carter and the Reagan administration's "sanctions" were a blatant violation of U.S. legislation which required that such measures be coordinated with the Congress. By refusing to do so, the administration showed complete disrespect for the Congress, Lee Hamilton said. He announced that he was going to propose an amendment to the Export Control Act which would rule out the possibility of unilateral moves on the part of the White House.

USTINOV GREETS CSSR'S DZUR ON LIBERATION DAY

PM110804 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 May 83 First Edition p 1

[Text] To Army General Comrade M. Dzur, CSSR minister of national defense:

Esteemed Comrade Minister!

On behalf of the USSR Armed Forces and on my own account I send you and all servicemen of the Czechoslovak People's Army cordial congratulations on the 38th anniversary of Czechoslovakia's liberation from the fascist aggressors.

The CSSR's achievements in the years of people's power are a shining example of the tremendous opportunities opened up for the working class, the peasantry, the intelligentsia, and every member of society by the socialist system. The Czechoslovak people, implementing the 16th CPCZ Congress decisions, are confidently following the path of building a developed socialist society.

On the CSSR's national holiday we wish you and the Czechoslovak servicemen further successes in strengthening the defense capability of your motherland and all the Warsaw Pact states.

With communist greetings,

[Signed] Marshal of the Soviet Union D. Ustinov, USSR defense minister

PRAVDA EDITORIAL ON HONECKER VISIT TO USSR

PM111103 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 May 83 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Fraternal Cohesion"]

[Text] True to the great Lenin's behest on the vital importance of and need for close, all-around cooperation among the peoples who have embarked on the path of socialism, our party shows constant concern for the further development and deepening of ties among fraternal states and for the growth of their ideological cohesion. The community countries' active cooperation in the economy, culture, and other spheres of life, comradely mutual assistance, the elaboration and implementation of a basically unified foreign policy line -- all this augments the might of world socialism and strengthens its influence on the course of international events.

Last week's official friendly visit to the Soviet Union by a GDR party and state delegation headed by E. Honecker; general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, was a convincing new demonstration of the fraternal peoples' unbreakable unity and cohesion. The summit talks and meetings held in Moscow confirmed the full unity of views on all the questions discussed. In addition to Moscow, the guests from the fraternal country visited the Kazakh and Uzbek SSR's and met with working people of plants and kolkhozes and with workers of party and soviet organs. They were everywhere given a cordial, hearty welcome.

The visit by the German socialist state's emissaries took place during portentous May days, on the eve of our great festival -- Victory Day. The defeat of Hitlerite fascism resulted in profound changes in the destinies of many peoples and in the world's social makeup. It was the unforgettable May of 1945 that opened a new page in the chronicle of East Germany.

Its working people, liberated from fascism as a result of the Soviet Army's victory in the Great Patriotic War, embarked on the path of revolutionary transformations of society. Rallied around their Marxist-Leninist vanguard -- the SED -- they created on German soil for the first time a truly free and democratic state on whose banners the words "Peace" and "Socialism" are inscribed. Its formation and strengthening were an important stage in the development of world socialism and substantially increased the overall potential of the fraternal community.

The GDR today is a country with a developed economy, advanced science and technology, and high material and cultural living standards of the population. The fact that a new person has been educated there -- an active builder of a socialist society and a fighter for peace and the peoples' security -- is a very important achievement. Socialism's portentous successes on German soil, in the motherland of Karl Marx, are graphic proof of the great creative force of Marxist-Leninist teaching.

"We communists," Comrade Yu.V. Andropov pointed out at the Kremlin dinner in the GDR delegation's honor, "proudly state that history has proceeded and its proceeding according to Marx, Enbels, and Lenin. Marxism-Leninism, constantly enriched by the practice of communist and workers parties and by international experience of the building of socialism and the struggle for it, is today the only true and reliable guide to action."

The working people of the Soviet Union and the GDR have the same ideals and the same common aims. They unswervingly follow the principles of socialist internationalism. The talks in Moscow noted the high level of relations between the two countries, which are continuing to develop in the ascendant. This applies to cooperation in the production sphere, to interparty ties between the CPSU and the SED, to cooperation among state organs, public organizations, and labor collectives, to the exchange of cultural values, and to other forms of contact.

The volume of trade turnover between our countries, which are each other's biggest trading partners, is growing yearly. The accumulated experience of cooperation enables us to place on the agenda the task of reaching a still higher level of cooperation between the national economies. The USSR and the GDR, the joint communique adopted on the results of the visit points out, will continue actively to promote the deepening of the process of socialist economic integration and the pooling of efforts in resolving the problems advanced by the scientific and technical revolution. In this connection the conviction was expressed that the upcoming summit conference of CEMA states in Moscow will open a new stage in their fruitful multilateral cooperation.

The participants in the talks emphasized the great significance of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between the USSR and the GDR. This fraternal alliance founded on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism, is an important factor in resolving the tasks of building a new society, strengthening the community of socialist countries, and consolidating peace and security in Europe.

"One of our people's greatest revolutionary gains," Comrade E. Honecker declared in his Kremlin dinner speech, "is that friendship with the land of Lenin has become the foundation of their life and the common property of all working people. The CPSU and the SED have done tremendous work in the name of this."

The exchange of opinions on urgent problems of the present international situation confirmed that there is now no more urgent task than that of eliminating the threat of war. The USSR and the GDR are fully resolved together with the other socialist countries to struggle persistently and energetically to curb the arms race. They will strive consistently to realize the peace initiatives formulated in the declaration of the Prague conference of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee. The GDR delegation declared its full support for the proposals recently made by the Soviet Union to limit and reduce nuclear arms. The sides pointed once again to the need for unconditional respect for the existing territorial and political realities in postwar Europe.

Approving the fruitful results of the visit and the summit talks, Soviet people express the conviction that they will serve the further development of relations between our parties and states and the cause of the struggle to strengthen socialism's positions and for lasting peace on earth.

DOLGIKH HAS 'WARM, COMRADELY' TALK WITH BCP'S DOYNOV

PM101116 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Apr 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general heading: "Talks at CPSU Central Committee]

[Text] A friendly meeting has been held at the CPSU Central Committee between V.I. Dolgikh, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and O. Doynov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the BCP Central Committee, in the course of which a number of questions of Soviet-Bulgarian cooperation were discussed. The talk passed in a warm, comradely atmosphere.

The meeting was attended by D. Zhulev, Bulgarian ambassador to the USSR.

BCP DELEGATION STUDIES BELORUSSIAN PARTY ACTIVITY

PM101505 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 May 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Exchange of Experience"]

[Text] A delegation of BCP party workers led by O. Doynov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the BCP Central Committee, was in the Soviet Union from 3 through 7 May. [dates as published] The delegation visited the Belorussian SSR, where it familiarized itself with the experience of republic party organizations' work in directing the national economy and the development of scientific and technical progress.

The Bulgarian comrades visited a number of production associations and scientific research institutes in Minsk, Vitebsk, and Novopolotsk. The delegation had a meeting with N.N. Slyunkov, first secretary of the Belorussian CP Central Committee.

BRIEFS

USSR-CSSR EXCHANGE RATIFICATION PAPERS -- On 4 May in Prague A.P. Botvin, USSR ambassador to the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, and B. Chnoupek, CSSR minister of foreign affairs, exchanged instruments of ratification of the Treaty on Legal Aid and Legal Relations in Civilian, Family, and Criminal Cases between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic signed in Moscow 12 August 1982. [Text] [Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 May 83 Morning Edition p 4 PM]

'PROVOCATIVE CAMPAIGN' ABOUT USSR SUBS ASSAILED

LD111718 Moscow TASS in English 1625 GMT 11 May 83

["Unfriendly Act" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow May 11 TASS -- TASS news analyst Georgiy Vladimirov writes:

Lately, some statesmen and politicians as well as mass media in Sweden have taken upon themselves the unseemly function of touting hollow inventions about the Soviet Union, joining the provocative campaign over an alleged violation of Swedish territorial waters by Soviet subs. The pretext for this campaign has been provided by the highly dubious findings of the special commission set up to investigate "violations" of Swedish territorial waters by Soviet subs. The pretext for this campaign has been provided by the highly dubious findings of the special commission set up to investigate "violations" of Swedish territorial waters by foreign subs. Admitting that it lacked any convincing evidence of the national appurtenance of the subs, but, on the other hand, had "traces" left by the subs in the water, the commission loudly proclaimed that the subs could only be Soviet. Accepting the commission's findings at their face value, the Swedish Government presented a statement of protest in this connection to the USSR Government.

The statement contains allegations, supported by no proof, that Soviet subs tried to probe Swedish sea territory. But why should it, one may ask, be probed? It is well-known that the data necessary for navigation in Sweden's coastal waters have been indicated by Swedes themselves on the sea maps available to navigators of foreign states.

Soviet competent authorities have painstakingly checked the whereabouts of Soviet subs in the period referred to by the Swedish Government in its statement. It was established precisely that none of them had been in the Swedish territorial waters. Moreover, none came closer than 30 kilometres to them. That is why they could not engage in activities ascribed to them in the statement.

There is no doubt that the groundless and unfounded allegations of the Swedish Government, as well as statements made by officials in this connection play into the hands of the forces which have already for a long time been engaged in a massive onslaught on the process of detente, staging noisy provocative propaganda campaigns in a bid to cast aspersions on the peaceful foreign policy of the Soviet Union, and to undermine its goodneighbourly relations with Sweden.

The Soviet Union and this is known well to the Government of Sweden, has always strictly abided by the generally recognized norms of international law and respected the borders of other states. It constantly strives to develop friendly relations with Sweden in the spirit of mutual respect and understanding. In the conditions of the current complex international situation, cooperation between the USSR and Sweden could, doubtless, play a constructive role and contribute to the process of detente and of strengthening peace in the north of Europe.

NATO 'DISTANT DRUM-83' EXERCISES ANNOUNCED

LD111527 Moscow TASS in English 1411 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Brussels May 11 -- It was announced by the Headquarters of the Supreme Command of the NATO Joint Forces in Europe that exercises code-named 'Distant Drum-83' will be held in the Mediterranean from May 16 to 27. Naval and air units of Canada, the United States, Italy, Britain, and Turkey will take part in them. Although France does not belong to the bloc's military organization, her ships and planes will also have a role in the exercises.

SHULTZ MIDEAST VISIT, LEBANESE PLAN CONDEMNED

TASS Commentary

LD111453 Moscow TASS in English 1404 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Moscow May 11 TASS -- TASS commentator Grigoriy Vasilyev writes:

Speaking at a press conference in Paris, the U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz called upon the Soviet Union to back Washington's efforts and to side with peace in Lebanon.

The negotiations which were recently held by U.S. secretary of state in the course of his Middle East "shuttle" mission sufficiently clearly showed what kind of "peace" in that Arab country is sought by the partners in the strategic alliance -- Washington and Tel Aviv. Attempts are being made to impose capitulation upon Lebanon, tormented and occupied by Israeli aggressors, to make it waive its sovereignty and national independence. Lebanon's territorial integrity is now under real threat. The "settlement" project which was put forward by Washington and "approved in principle" by Tel Aviv, actually signifies severance of south Lebanese areas from the rest of the country. The project envisages a number of terms the implementation of which would lead to perpetuation of the Israeli occupation regime, to expansion of the American military presence on Lebanese soil.

Gross pressure, attempts to use the fruits of the criminal aggression, unleashed by the Israeli military against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples with Washington's knowledge and support, have nothing in common with the quest for ways of normalizing the situation around Lebanon, establishing fair and durable peace in the Middle East. To attain that aim, interventionist troops should be immediately and unconditionally withdrawn from Lebanon in line with the U.N. Security Council's resolutions, the inalienable rights of the Arab people of Palestine should be guaranteed, including their right to national self-determination and the right to have an independent state of their own.

PRAVDA Article

LD120700 Moscow TASS in English 0643 GMT 12 May 83

["PRAVDA: Conspiracy Against Lebanon" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow May 12 TASS -- For peace to come to the long-suffering Lebanese land it is necessary above all that the aggressor's troops be fully withdrawn from there, the newspaper PRAVDA stresses in its article "Conspiracy Against Lebanon." American and other foreign troops should also be withdrawn from Lebanon.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz undertook his recent trip to the Middle East in a yet another attempt to save "Reagan's plan" underlying that plan is the desire of American imperialism to strengthen its political and military positions in the Arab world and meanwhile to demonstrate support for its Israeli ally and also conservative Arab circles.

During a fortnight, PRAVDA stresses, Shultz made shuttle trips between capitals of states of the region but seemingly he paid the main attention to "mediation" between Israel and Lebanon which actually boiled down to rendering massive pressure upon the victim of the aggression.

It is demanded that Lebanon should waive its independence and sovereignty so as troops of the Israeli aggressor and also U.S. troops should actually remain on Lebanese soil. Attempts are being made to turn that Arab country into a bridgehead for aggressive actions against neighboring Arab states, into the strongpoint of U.S. military presence in the Middle East.

What they want to do with Lebanon, PRAVDA stresses, runs counter to the U.N. decisions and its rightfully considered by Arab countries, particularly neighbouring, as a direct threat to their security and peace in the Middle East. It is by no means accidental that the fuss around conclusion of an American-Israeli-Lebanese agreement is accompanied by military preparations against Syria. Threats are also being made to Jordan. In brief, they are speaking of peace, but meanwhile preparing war.

Soltan Commentary

LD112024 Moscow World Service in English 1300 GMT 11 May 83

[Yuriy Soltan commentary]

[Text] The United States and Israel have entered another collusion which is fraught with great danger for the people of the region. The aggressor, who has flooded Lebanese soil with blood, and his patron are sharing the loot and conceiving further brigandage. Lebanon has been assigned the role of a country dependent on Tel Aviv, remaining under Israeli occupation in one form or another. As to the United States, it seeks to assume the right of a guarantor to use it to increase the number of its troops on Lebanese territory and to stay there indefinitely. Although this act actually amounts to encroach ment on Lebanese sovereignty, Washington officials call it peaceful settlement and try to impose it on the Government of Lebanon at gunpoint.

This, in fact, was the chief objective of the mediation mission of the American Secretary of State Shultz. Yet, the matter is not restricted to Lebanon; the Israeli war machine is being prepared for action against Syria. The first strike is to be delivered at the Syrian troops, which stay in Lebanon as part of the inter-Arab peacekeeping force.

Official Damascus has said more than once that as soon as the Israeli troops, which directly endanger Syria, leave Lebanese territory, there will be no problem between Lebanon and Syria in pulling out the Syrian formations. Yet Washington and Tel Aviv threaten Syria with armed aggression in an attempt to make also that country accept capitulatory terms. Tel Aviv is massing troops in the Al-Biqa' Valley along the line of contact with the Syrian troops. It has already brought to the region long-range artillery, which can be used to shell Damascus. Along with it, Israel is stepping up militaristic preparations on the Golan Heights, a territory it has captured from Syria.

In other words, with the help of Israel, the Reagan administration is paving in the Middle East the way for peace American style, which lies through the occupation of Lebanon and another war. Which this time is being prepared against Syria. This is the essence of the so-called plan of settlement in Lebanon, a plan Washington and Tel Aviv agreed upon during the visit of George Shultz. This plan carries new trouble (?to) the Arabs, yet the United States hypocritically invites other countries to accede to it.

The position of the Soviet Union is clearly formulated in the TASS statement of 10 May. The Soviet Union, the document says, strongly rejects the policy of diktat toward Lebanon, the attempts to infringe on its right as a sovereign, independent state. The problems of Lebanon cannot be solved by arm-twisting; to restore peace in Lebanon, the aggressor must first of all withdraw all of its troops from that country. The Security Council decision demanding this must be fulfilled. The American and other foreign troops now in Lebanon must also be withdrawn. The Soviet Union is for a united Lebanon; it advocates restoration of that country's sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity.

U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE IN LEBANON SCORED

LD112225 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 11 May 83

[From the Vremya newscast; video recording by Farid Seyful-Mulyukov]

[Text] Beirut -- An extremely tense situation still prevails in eastern parts of Lebanon. It has been caused by a further concentration of Israeli troops in the Al-Biqa' Valley on the line of contact with the Syrian contingent of the inter-Arab peace-keeping forces in the country. As the L'ORIENT-LE JOUR newspaper reported, Chief of the General Staff of the Israeli Army Levi, in the course of the past 2 days, accompanied by a number of senior officers, has inspected advance positions of the Israeli forces. He has studied the positions of the Syrian troops and their reinforcements near the villages of (Yakub), (Lusa) and (Gaza). Israeli tanks and artillery have also been sent to the deployment area of Lebanese separatists, commanded by Tel Aviv's puppet Haddad. According to incoming information, Israeli strength in the Al-Biqa' Valley already exceeds 20,000 men.

Here is reportage by Farid Seyful-Mulyukov, our special correspondent, from Beirut:

[Begin video recording] If you travel from Khalde international airport to the city, you can see this sort of idyllic picture. [camera shows men in civilian clothes playing ball] These American boys, having discarded their Marines uniform, feel in Lebanon as if they were at their own military base in Fort Bragg, North Carolina. In their free time they can play with their friends and their (?frisbees). They are at home here, at a U.S. military base situated right by Beirut airport.

I recall how the U.S. Marines landed unnoticed on Lebanese shores from the ships of the 6th Fleet [camera shows U.S. Navy ships in the distance, cutting to shots of oil drum wall surrounding U.S. base] At first there were no blank walls made from oil drums or categorical signs: Civilians forbidden to enter the territory of the bases. Now this is also an American military bridgehead on Lebanese soil.

At present, the Pentagon has sent to Lebanon only a forward detachment of 1,200 Marines. They comprise the backbone of the multinational forces, knocked together from the troops of NATO countries. These Marines -- in America they are called leather-necks -- patrol the streets of Beirut. [film of Marines on street patrol] And they pace them, spread out in a file, as they were shown by the military instructors back at headquarters. They are ready to go into battle at the slightest hint of danger.

And this is the base of the British contingent of the multinational forces. [footage of wall and gates of British base] It is situated in the southeastern outskirts of Beirut, in the region of (Khaddas), directly opposite the strongpoint of the Israeli Army. [camera shows Israeli flags, cuts to shots of people in street] At first glance, it may seem that Beirut, held in a ring of alien troops, lives in a carefree way and is not despondent. Life is in full swing, just as in peacetime. But this is just the wrapping: the Israeli occupation, which has reached the gates of Beirut, and the military presence of America and NATO in Lebanon is causing increasing uneasiness here.

These days, Lebanon lives in a state of incredible tension. [video shows people in street running for cover] Explosions and artillery fire exchanges occur all the time in Beirut suburbs, Shuf, Biqa' and other regions where the Israeli invaders and their allies from the NATO forces stay.

The situation in Lebanon became heated during the U.S. secretary of state's shuttle trips to the Near East capitals. Shultz came here to either create peace or a new war. The draft agreement between Israel and Lebanon, which was worked out under Washington's pressure, caused serious alarm in the Arab world. [video shows damaged buildings]

Israel, which -- with U.S. blessing and help -- carried out aggression against Lebanon, occupied one-third of this country and opened the door for U.S. Marines to land on Lebanese beaches, suddenly agrees -- allegedly in a peaceful way -- to remove its forces from Lebanon. What is wrong here? Many details of this deal prepared by George Shultz are still unclear, but it is known for certain that Israel does not intend to be first to withdraw its occupation troops from Lebanon.

Begin's government still demands from Beirut special privileges in the south of the country where permanent Israeli military bases have been created. It is not excluded here that these bases may become American ones, like this one in the Beirut suburbs. That is why many sensible politicians, both in Beirut and in Syria -- whose security is tightly linked with the security of neighboring Lebanon, maintain that Shultz's creation is a logical continuation of Camp David and Reagan's Near East plan. If this deal becomes reality it will have grave consequences both for Lebanon and the Arab world. [end recording]

POLITICAL, MILITARY SITUATION IN LEBANON VIEWED

LD112333 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1835 GMT 11 May 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Boris Kalyagin]

[Text] Bombs again exploded in Beirut today -- one of them in the western part of town, and the other in the southern part of the Lebanese capital. [shots of damaged buildings] Local observers believe it was the work of Israeli agents, who are stoking up tension and provoking clashes in order to make it easier to justify the continuation of the occupation of Lebanese territory by the Israeli military. Meanwhile, in the Al-Biqa' Valley in eastern Lebanon, the concentration of Israeli troops continues. They already number more than 20,000 in this area. Several tank brigades, heavy artillery and other military hardware are concentrated there. The Israelis are continuing military provocations against the Syrian units located in the Al-Biqa' Valley. Their planes are carrying out reconnaissance flights over eastern Lebanon.

Israeli Army Chief of Staff Levy, accompanied by a number of senior officers, has inspected the Israeli positions and studied the deployment of Syria's forward units and their fortifications.

This is the background against which Washington and Tel Aviv are mounting a propaganda campaign about the deal they have concluded for the withdrawal of troops from Lebanon. They are putting pressure on the Syrian Government, demanding that it should join in the agreement prepared by U.S. Secretary of State Shultz and Israeli Prime Minister Begin.

Let us recall some of the terms of the deal. First, it does not provide for the withdrawal of U.S. Marines from Lebanon. They are to stay in the territory of the country. [shots of U.S. Marines in Beirut and ships near the coast] Fifty Israeli soldiers and officers are also to stay in southern Lebanon in order, it is said, to observe security measures. A so-called communications center is being set up in Lebanon. It is possible that it will be located in Beirut itself. [shots of helicopter in flight and of gate of U.S. Marine base]

Furthermore, Major Haddad, the Tel Aviv puppet, who set up the pro-Israeli military corps, is to be appointed deputy commander of the Lebansese armed forces in the south of the country. Three hundred officers from his army are also to join the Lebanese Army, and they are to be permitted to serve in the south.

By all accounts, there are also secret paragraphs and deals that have not been made public and that guarantee even more advantages for Israel. In addition to all this, the Israeli troops are to be pulled out on the condition the Syrian military units have left Lebanon first, as well as the Palestinian fighters who have kept their positions in the north and east of the country.

The Syrian units are in Lebanon by madate of the Arab League to keep the peace in the country, while the Israeli military occupied the south of Lebanon as a result of the aggression it perpetrated. So it is wrong to place these two sides on equal terms. Moreover, Syria is being called upon to pull its troops out unconditionally, while Israel has managed to secure privileges for itself.

It is thus quite natural that President al-Asad of Syria declared that the draft agreement on the withdrawal of troops only takes into account Israel's interests and that it is unjustifiable for Israel to receive unilateral advantages. [shots of Al-Asad's picture on side of bulding] Syria cannot agree to something that runs counter to the independence of Lebanon and its freedom and interests, as well as the security of Syria and its interests. This was once again repeated by Syrian Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad. [shots of Syrian information minister making statement]

In reply, Washington and Tel Aviv have attempted to put fresh pressure on Syria. This is being done through two channels. Israel is resorting to overt threats. Israeli Foreign Minister Shamir declared, in particular, that if Syria did not pull its troops out, Israel would take action to defend its people in Lebanon and would reinforce its position there. And the NBC company ominously warned that if the Syrians do not leave Lebanon, there will be a risk of fresh clashes with Israel and even the threat of a new war. On the other hand, U.S. Secretary of State Shultz has held talks with King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, expecting Riyadh to help put pressure on Damascus.

The Arab press is watching these maneuvers extremly guardedly. The Syrian newspaper TISHRIN stresses that the U.S. Administration is hoping in vain to get a new Camp David from Syria.

U.S. HOUSE DEBATE ON INCREASED AID TO ISRAEL HIT

LD112145 Moscow TASS in English 1511 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Moscow May 11 TASS -- commentator Vyacheslav Muravev writes: American [word indistict] have dispelled all doubt about where the sympathies of the United States are in the Middle East crisis. In the [word indistinct] of debate in the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives on Tuesday they proposed to (allocate) in the next fiscal year 850 million dollars for giving free military aid to Israel instead of the 550 million requested by the Reagan administration. Thereby the congressmen confirmed that the true aim of the Middle East policy of the United States is to give unconditional support to Tel Aviv and not the striving for peace and the readiness to put Israel in place, as the United States Secretary of State Geogre Shultz kept telling the Arabs during his recent visit to the Middle East.

It is absolutely clear that the American plans to give Israel new huge sums to strengthen its military machine are not conducive to the establishment of peace in the region. On the contrary, they undermine the efforts of the Arab world to settle the explosive situation and actually are an approval of the Israeli preparations for a new aggression, this time against Syria.

The American congressmen know well that Israel has concentrated in the occupied south of Lebanon a powerful military grouping which is staging every day provocations against the Syrian troops from the inter-Arab peace-keeping force in Lebanon. Recently, the Israeli Defence Minister Arens confirmed against whom the guns of Israeli tanks in the area are trained by stating that he does not "rule out an armed clash with Syria along the entire line of the front."

It is clear in the light of these facts and also the calls to increase military aid to Tel Aviv that the "Shultz plan" is only a diplomatic cover for the expansionist designs of the United States and Israel in the Middle East. The purpose of the plan's demands for the withdrawal of Syrian troops from Lebanon, for "guarantees of security" to Israel, of the humiliating, cabal terms imposed on Lebanon, is to dismember the Lebanese state, to turn it into an Israeli vassal, [words indistinct] for a new aggression by Tel Aviv.

Not counting on the Arab world to tall for Washington's bait -- the so called "Lebanese-Israeli agreement on peace" -- the United States is staking on its tested means -- Tel Aviv's aggressive military machine. By pushing the Begin government to a new aggression in the Middle East Washington hopes to establish there American-Israeli hegemony.

MOSCOW COMMENTS ON ISRAELI-ZAIREAN RELATIONS

LD072303 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 7 May 83

[Text] Israel had to pay dear, especially from the diplomatic and political points of view, for its aggression against the Arabs in 1967. Dozens of countries have severed diplomatic relations with it. Even taken alone, this fact shows that the Zionist state enjoys little or no prestige on the international scene. Now a commentary by Aleksandr Fedorov:

To break away from this state of political isolation, to broaden political and economic contacts with other countries, are the primary goals the Israeli leaders are trying to reach by restoring diplomatic relations with Zaire. Yet there are all indications that this much advertized move has failed to bring Tel Aviv the results it expected to get.

When the Israeli foreign minister, Yitzhaq Shamir, returned home from a visit to Kinshasa late last year he described his trip as very important and maybe even historical. The minister's solemn tone was easy to explain: he had brought along an agreement on military cooperation with Zaire. True, Israel failed to establish economic contacts with Zaire, yet what it lost in that field is now compensated for in arms sales which is one of the most profitable items of its exports. In that field, Shamir's mission in Kinshasa was a success. Zaire intends to buy Israeli weapons. As to the political results of that mission for Israel, its success proved very limited. The African countries refused to restore diplomatic relations with Israel, although due to its agreement with Kinshasa the Begin government succeeded in forming a small split in Afro-Arab unity; it failed to widen it despite the massive support from Washington. Incidentally, the restoration of diplomatic relations between Israel and Zaire, just as the conclusion of the agreement on military cooperation between them, was largely arranged by the Reagan administration. American pressure made Kinshasa more compliant towards Israel.

Washington is interested in Israeli penetration. By infiltrating its agents into one of the largest African countries, Washington hopes to consolidate American positions on the continent. By helping Israel gain a foothold in Zaire the United States sort of cuts off the African south -- a region rich in minerals and therefore included into the sphere of so-called American vital interests -- from the rest of the continent.

Angola, Mozambique, and other countries of the region with progressive regimes are finding themselves squeezed between the Israelis in Zaire in the north and the South African racists in the south. Both are loyal servants of American imperialism. This is the strategic goal of Israeli penetration in Zaire, a goal American imperialism tries hard to promote

PRAVDA EXAMINES SIGNIFICANCE OF ASWAN HIGH DAM

PM101038 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 May 83 First Edition p 6

[Correspondent V. Peresada dispatch: "Aswan: City and Dam"]

[Summary] Aswan, May [date not specified] -- Aswan, one of the southermost cities in Egypt, was stagnating until the 1952 revolution started to bring about changes. "But the real turning point in the life of this region, as well as the whole of Egypt, came with the construction of the High Dam and the hydroelectric power station on the Nile." Since the construction project was completed with Soviet assistance, Aswan has been transformed from a small resort into the administrative and industrial center of a large governorate. And there are impressive plans to quadruple the governorate's industrial potention; develop agriculture, and implement social programs.

However, the state needs to attract more private capital to socially important projects, for the private investor prefers to put his money into hotels and the trade sphere. In addition, the "open door" policy introduced by As-Sadat did not benefit remote Aswan as much as it did Cairo or Alexandria. "On the other hand, the state sector laid down under An-Nasir is quite strong. This makes it possible to assume that the correction to the former economic policy, which the present Egyptian leadership is starting to carry out, could yield its first tangible results precisely in Aswan."

The Aswan Dam is a colossal structure which will forever remain a monument to the joint labor of the Egyptian and Soviet peoples. The hydroelectric power station today provides almost half the country's electricity. "Much that is good has been said in Egypt about the Aswan complex, although attempts have been made in recent years to belittle its significance. Realistic, fair assessments are now being heard here once again. As Shanudah, first deputy minister of irrigation, declared, in 1981 the dam saved Egyptian agriculture from the threat of drought. Egyptian television has shown reportage attesting to the tremendous role played by the Aswan hydroelectric power station in the country's development. The immutable gratitude of ordinary Egyptians to those who helped to tame the Nile is also evidenced by the inexhaustible stream of people to the Arab-Soviet friendship monument which towers alongside the power station.

"At the beginning of the year the people of Aswan celebrated their traditional festival -- Governorate Day. It is pegged to the day when the declaration on the completion of construction and the commissioning of the hydroelectric complex was signed. This good tradition reminds people of the past and helps them to evaluate the present in greater depth and to look with optimism to the future."

REAGAN'S STAND ON NICARAGUA CRITICIZED

LD062141 Moscow TASS in English 2124 GMT 6 May 83

[Text] Moscow May 6 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Vladimir Goncharov writes:

In the history of U.S. imperialism, which has been quite rich in manifestations of impudent hegemonist claims, it is, perhaps, still difficult to find statements similar to those made by Ronald Reagan at the recent press conference in Washington when the U.S. President set out the U.S. stand with regard to Nicaragua. He directly stated that Washington has rendered and will continue to render aid to the Somocistas that are fighting against the Sandinist government. In other words, by admitting an active assistance to the bandits who operate from bases in a foreign territory, the U.S. President cynically admitted Washington's intention to overthrow the legitimate government of another sovereign state!

That such a course of President Reagan glaringly runs counter to the Charter of the United Nations Organization, of which both the USA and Nicaragua are members, just as to all international agreements signed by the United States, is obvious. Such a policy of defiant disregard for the laws and norms of the world community can be viewed as a new word in the piratic practice of imperialism and as a certain "Reagan doctrine". Really, the USA has more than once resorted to the "big stick", has more than once overthrown legitimate governments of Latin American states and installed its puppets in power. However, Reagan's predecessors avoided speaking of that aloud, so loudly and impudently, at any rate.

Reagan's pronouncements about the current intervention in Nicaragua look particularly unseemly against the background of the U.S. Administration's hypocritical talk as to its allegiance to freedom and democracy, against the backdrop of attempts at lecturing and moralising other states, which, incidentally, no one authorizes Washington to do. And that looks all the more defiant as Reagan offers to the people of Nicaragua the Somocista butchers and cutthroats as "democrats", the Somocistas who have won worldwide notoriety for blood-curdling crimes, monstrous tortures and mass and refined killings.

There are lots of such examples in the foreign policy of the present U.S. Administration. Let us recall the U.S. stand with regard to Afghanistan, the stand in keeping with which the counterrevolutionary bandits who destroy their own people are being provided with weapons. And finally, the supreme manifestation of hypocrisy and cynicism in the field of foreign policy are Washington's attempts at justifying the runaway arms race by statements as to striving to strengthen peace.

Immorality is the characteristic feature of the present U.S. Administration in the field of domestic policy too. Suffice it to recall Reagan's attitude towards the poor, pensioners, blacks, and U.S. citizens of Latin America descent. Hypocritical and immoral is also the President's stand in the field of religion. Reagan is known to have proclaimed 1983 to be the year of the Bible in the USA and constantly makes sanctimonious speeches redolent of image-lamp oil. At the same time he puts gross pressure on the Catholic bishops in order to compel them to abandon the struggle against nuclear weapons. And he by no means intends to follow their pastoral precepts.

And is not Washington's decision to give the name of "Corpus Christi" to a submarine of the "Trident" type, fitted out with nuclear missiles, immoral...?

In short, there are all indications that the statements and particularly deeds by the present leaders of the White House will, doubtless, go down in history as a "zero option" of political morals....

NICARAGUAN COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY ACTIONS NOTED

LD120932 Moscow TASS in English 0839 GMT 12 May 83

[Text] Managua May 12 TASS -- The Foreign Ministry of Nicaragua has reported a new armed provocation committed by counter-revolutionary mercenaries who established, with the CIA's help, their secret camps on the territory of Costa Rica.

About 50 counter-revolutionaries, who invaded Nicaragua from Costa Rica, the Foreign Ministry stresses in its statement, attacked on May 3 the Papaturro frontier post, located four kilometres from the frontier line between the two countries. In the course of an armed clash, fighting men of the Sandinist People's Army killed 5 counter-revolutionaries; one of them was recognised to be former mayor of the Costa Rican countryside guards Francisco Rodriguez.

The Nicaraguan Government informed the Costa Rican authorities of the incident, it is noted in the statement.

The Central Intelligence Agency is known to have launched broad activity in recruiting mercenaries in the United States and Latin American countries, using them as cannon fodder in the undeclared war, which was unleased by the Reagan administration against Nicaragua.

Defenceless civilians of the republic are the main target of the bloody crimes committed by counter-revolutionaries, who are armed and financed by the United States. According to reports, reaching here, one of the counter-revolutionary formations, based in Costa Rica, penetrated into the Nicaraguan Department of Rio San Juan and staged a repression against residents of small settlements of that zone. 11 innocent peasants died from the hands of bandits whom President Reagan calls "fighters for freedom and democracy". The victims of that criminal action are above all activists of cooperative farms and participants in the literacy campaign which is conducted by the revolutionary Government of Nicaragua.

ALIYEV RECEIVES CUBAN, BULGARIAN ENVOYS

LD111500 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1300 GMT 11 May 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] Comrade Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, met in the Kremlin today with Garcia Frias, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee Political Bureau, deputy chairman of the republic's State Council and the Council of Ministers, and minister of transport, who is on a working visit to the USSR. Issues of mutual interest were discussed in a cordial, comradely atmosphere. Comrade Guzhenko, minister of the maritime fleet, and Anillo Capote, Cuban ambassador to the USSR, also participated in the meeting.

Comrade Aliyev also received Zhulev, ambassador of the People's Republic of Bulgaria to the USSR. During the friendly conversation they exchanged opinions on questions of mutual interest.

SAKHAROV AS 'HOSTAGE'; EMIGRATION RIGHT DENIED

Wife Fears for Safety

NC111052 Paris AFP in English 1041 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Moscow, May 11 (AFP) -- Dissident Soviet physicist Andrey Sakharov is ready to emigrate if authorized to do so by Soviet authorities, his wife Bonner told Western correspondents here today. Soviet Justice Minister Vladimir Terebilov recently told Swedish television that Mr Sakharov would be granted an exit visa if he applied for one. Mrs Bonner said her husband, who has been in internal exile in Gorki since January 1980, would be prepared to accept an invitation from the University of Vienna to deliver a series of lectures there. But she added that Mr Sakharov had so far received no formal invitation from the university. Austrian diplomatic sources today said the invitation was delivered by the Austrian Embassy here to the Soviet Foreign Ministry last week, but that no response had been received to date. Questioned today by AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, Justice Ministry officials said the decision to allow Mr Sakharov to leave was up to visa authorities.

Mrs Bonner said her husband's delicate health and his near complete isolation had finally prompted him to change his mind on emigration. Previously, Mr Sakharov had refused to leave the Soviet Union -- even briefly -- for fear of being unable to return. Several months ago his wife expressed anxiety over Mr Sakharov's condition as he has suffered from heart trouble for some time. Citing the constant harassment she and her husband have undergone by the KGB, the Soviet intelligence agency, Mrs Bonner has said: "They want to kill him morally and physically." She warned again today that he was in danger of dying in Gorki. "They can kill him at any time on the pretext of heart failure," she charged. "He is their hostage."

She said they were not dissuaded by the prospect of losing their Soviet citizenship. "It would not be so tragic, and in any case, it would be much less so than our current situation," she told correspondents.

Deprived of all scientific and social contacts, Mr Sakharov is unable to continue his scientific work or to lead a normal life. His residence in Gorki is under constant surveillance by the KGB, whose agents have (?not) hesitated on two occasions to confiscate his manuscripts. There has likewise been pressure on close friends of the couple who themselves have been subject to searches and other forms of intimidation. Mr Sakharov and his wife, in addition to the isolation they have had to endure, have likewise been separated from their children, Liza Alekseyeva and Alexey Semenov, who have been in the United States for the past two years and from whom they receive little news. Mrs Bonner today revealed her longing to know her new granddaughter. "I am a grandmother and I naturally hope to go to Boston to see the baby." she said.

TASS Justifies Denial

LD111520 Moscow TASS in English 1452 GMT 11 May 83

[Text] Moscow May 11 TASS -- A groundless hue and cry around the name of Sakharov has been raised lately in the West. This time there have appeared instigated inciting reports by bourgeois mass media about Andrey Sakharov's supposed trip abroad. It has been repeatedly pointed out in the Soviet press that by type of his scientific activity Sakharov is a person possessing especially important state and military secrets. For these reasons and proceeding from the interests of national security he is deprived of the possibility to make foreign trips. This stems from Soviet legislation and is the sovereign right of any state.

PRAVDA VIEWS TERRITORIAL PRODUCTION COMPLEXES

PM061353 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 May 83 First Edition p 2

[Article by Doctor of Economic Sciences Prof V. Pavlenko: "The Territory's Potential"]

[Text] The results of our economic management depend directly on how sensibly we use natural and manpower resources and the climatic features of each republic and each of the country's economic regions and on whether their production potential is included in a rational form in the all-union potential. This is not an abstract, theoretical question, but a real problem of the present day.

A very important part in resolving the complex questions of managing the economy should be played by the soviets, as determined by the 26th CPSU Congress and party and government decisions. It is a case of seeking the best combination of centralized and local principles; sectorial and territorial planning and the interests of the further development of the USSR's unified national economic complex.

The development of the RSFSR's eastern regions has recently begun to be planned at all-state level. An institute of fully empowered USSR Gosplan representatives is being established to prepare and partially resolve on the spot questions of all-union important in the Far East, East and West Siberia, and the Urals. But this is clearly not enough. It is essential that economic zoning should also be introduced to the activity of ministries and departments and to sectorial planning. This should assist the end goal -- the full satisfaction of the needs of the national economy and the population of each major economic region for all types of output which it is expedient to produce in it.

The development of territorial production balances and the distribution of the most important types of articles could be a specific step in this respect.

The enhancement of the role of economic zoning in the leadership of the economy requires a more precise definition of the existing network of regions so that it reflects their specialization more fully and helps to establish optimum interregional ties. The first urgent step in this direction has been taken. The Bashkir ASSR has been transferred from the Volga region to the Urals region, considerably closer to it economically. The Northern economic region has been removed from the vast and internally not very homogenous North-West Region. There is an urgent need to lend precise definition to Siberia and, albeit to a lesser degree, the Volga Region.

The improvement of the economy's development is also linked with the enhancement of the role of territorial production complexes. Party and government decisions have frequently mentioned that territorial production complexes are a progressive form for the siting of production forces. Within the state plans, targets are now set for the most important territorial complexes of all-union importance. It is essential that the USSR Gosplan should monitor their fulfillment, seeking the coordinated, interlinked development of all establishments belonging to territorial production complexes.

The example of the territorial production complexes shows that the successful growth of productive forces at a a particular stage can be hindered by the existing framework of the system of management and planning. Indeed, while it is possible to form and plan territorial production complexes in a mainly centralized way, in daily practice numerous operational questions are encountered which have to be resolved locally. And this no longer relies on planning, but requires organizational measures and the improvement of the system of administration of the national economy.

If we are speaking of territorial production complexes of all-union importance, then it is evidently time to think of creating in each a special organ with a full range of rights and responsibility. Then capital investments and material resources would be earmarked for this organ and all targets would be set for it. The plans for the territorial production complex would not be of a consolidated nature as now, but of the same type as plans for ministries and departments. But, of course, strict selection is compulsory here to ensure that it is only those multisectorial territorial production complexes where truly very important problems of all-union significance are being resolved which are included in the USSR state plan. For instance, complexes like the territorial production complexes based on West Siberian gas and oil resources. Such an organ of administration here could be created on the basis of the USSR Gosplan commission existing in the Tyumen, that is, rapidly and with no significant increase in the apparatus. This does not rule out the organization, at the center, in necessary cases, of interministerial coordinating commissions like the one for the West Siberian oil and gas complex.

There is no doubt that it would be timely to form territorial administration organs for the intensively developing, powerful territorial production complexes based on the Kansk-Achinsk and Ekibastuz coal basins and the territorial production complexes of the Kursk Magnetic Anomaly zone.

At the same time the planned formation and establishment of other territorial production complexes should also be underway, but as yet at a different level relating to the existing system of economic administration.

In speaking of the territorial aspect of the national economic complex, we cannot bypass the question of the administration of industries based on local agricultural resources and nonmetallic minerals. At present they are planned in two ways -- production and capital construction plans are set by the USSR ministries in the context of the union republics while labor, financial indicators, and material and material and technical resources are planned only by the ministries. The union republics do not and essentially cannot bear full responsibility for the operation of these sectors.

Considering that a substantial part and even the majority of their output is consumed locally, while the union republic budgets are formed at these sectors' expense, it is obviously expedient to transfer the enterprises and associations (and there are thousands) in them to the jurisdiction of the union republics and many of them to that of the local soviets and relevant oblast (kray) organs. The possibility for this solution has in principle been envisaged by the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and USSR Council of Ministers resolution adopted in March 1981.

We must merely be bolder in implementing this fundamentally new approach which will sharply enhance the role and responsibility of the union republics and local soviets and make it possible to consider more flexibly and fully the population's needs and specific local conditions and to lead enterprises and associations more efficiently, renouncing the unnecessary multiplicity of echelons and petty tutelage. Ultimately it will make it possible to combine better territorial and sectorial development at the level of the union republics and oblasts (krays and ASSR's), rayons and cities. Of course, this solution will require the intensification of comprehensive all-state planning of these sectors and the precise organization of inter-republican supplies of the output they produce.

No less urgent is a sharp increase in the territorial principle in box construction. It is now characterized by a multiplicity of echelons and a large number of small construction, contracting and subcontracting organizations. In a number of union republics and economic regions there are construction subdivisions of several general construction ministries, each of which creates its own, frequently small, material and technical base.

It seems expedient to move to a system of general construction ministries organized on the territorial principle -- for the European regions (a Ministry of Construction of the Western Regions [Minzapadstroy], for Siberia, Kazakhstan and Central Asia. Here in each union republic (except the RSFSR) and large-scale economic region there would be construction organizations belonging to a single general construction union-republic ministry. At the same time many construction organizations are in need of expansion so that they can be of a comprehensive nature and perform all types of work except for narrow specialized operations and particularly complex construction and installation work. Then there will be a single powerful construction and production association also engaged in rural construction operating in every oblast and ASSR (kray).

But any forms of enhancing the role of the territorial aspect of development are not an end in themselves. The search for thse forms is justifeid only on one unfailing condition -- the end result should be the further consolidation of the USSR's unified national economic complex.

USSR: GAS PIPELINE NOW 150 KM FROM UZHGOROD

PM110957 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 May 83 Morning Edition p 1

[B. Lvov and G. Panushkin report: "Pipeline on the Homestretch"]

[Text] On the Urengoy-Pomary-Uzhgorod pipeline just 150 km of pipes remain to be welded into the system.

And so, in less than 1 year the mechanized gangs and columns of the Ministry of Construction of Petroleum and Gas Industry enterprises have traveled a very difficult path 4,300 km long. Just 150 km separate the construction workers from the exciting moment when the last triumphant weld is made at the border marker in the region of Uzhgorod. Although the transcontinental pipeline has reached the homestretch, this is by no means a straight road, for these final kilometers are chiefly in the Carpathians.

While the welders and machine operators of Zaktruboprovodstroy are storming the mountain slopes and the approaches to them in collaboration with their GDR and Polish colleagues, the hydraulic testing of finished sections of the gas pipeline is in full swing. So far virtually one-fourth of the pipeline has passed the severe test and is ready to take gas. This was reported on the eve of May Day by Tyumen, Volga, Perm and Chelyabinsk workers and the construction workers of central Russia.

This year the frontline of the testing work is close to the 2,000 km mark.

These are convincing facts and figures attesting not only to the colossal scope of the central construction project of the 5-year plan and its high organizational and technical standard but also to a pace never before known in the world practice of pipeline construction! Let us recall that in June 1982, when line work, strictly speaking, got underway, a very modest result was achieved in 1 month -- 75 km. The monthly distance increased 900-1,100 percent in less than 6 months. Sometimes the construction and installation workers prepared up to 50 km of pipeline in just 24 hours.

The majority of the line work on the export pipeline has been fulfilled. But the remaining kilometers also represent hard work. And the end result depends on how things are organized, above all, on the pipeline's western arm. Much still has to be done also on the priority compressor stations due for completion. This is now the frontline of the "worker relay."

IZVESTIYA EDITORIALIZES ON AGRONOMISTS' ROLE

PM101541 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Apr 83 Morning Edition p 1

[Editorial: "The Agronomist"]

[Excerpts] The land is an enormously broad concept. It embraces the motherland, the fatherland, the region in which one lives and works, as well as our natural assets -- minerals, rivers, forests, seas and mountains. With good reason the land is popularly referred to as the provider.

When one considers that the end products of the agroindustrial complex, which derive from agricultural raw materials, currently account for 75 percent of the retail trade, it is clear that this wealth comes primarily from the land. It must be looked after and constant care must be taken to increase its fertility and to increase the yield of every hectare. And the agronomist, a representative of a profession which is one of the most humanitarian and most badly needed by modern society, is directly responsible for this.

There are currently 203,200 agronomists with a higher speicalist education and 237,400 with a secondary specialist education working for the USSR Ministry of Agriculture alone. That represents an average of almost 10 specialists per kolkhoz and sovkhoz. A substantial backup, to be sure! Given the correct placement of people, most farms are able not only to enjoy the dependable services of the chief agronomist but also to put specialists in charge of those key subdivisions of arable farming -- teams, sections, mechanized detachments and financially autonomous links.

We have many farms like the Gigant Sovkhoz, where agronomists' creative endeavor is based on modern research programs carried out in scientific and experimental establishments, a high general standard of production, strict technological discipline, financial autonomy and stable cadres of driver-mechanics. Thanks to the efforts of just such kolkhozes and sovkhozes and their agronomic service, for the first time every country reached a production level of an average of 205 million tons of grain a year in the 10th 5-Year Plan period (despite three droughts).

But this is not enough for us today. The Food Program sets increasing grain production to 238-243 million tons a year within the current 5-year plan period as a key task. Fodder production for stockraising is to be increased by 100 million tons of fodder units (25 percent). The stagnation in the production of a number of industrial and hulled crops must be remedied. It is important to more confidently counter drought and other unfavorable natural phenomena. It is time to restore the Russian Chernozem regions -- which have, unfortunately, recently beed depleted -- to their former fertility.

With local soviets' support, the new management organs -- the agroindustrial associations -- are to increase the agronomist's role on the farm. He cannot be mindlessly dictated to and told how much, when and what to sow. He must decide for himself. But he must also be accountable for his decisions.

There are nevertheless still places where decisions are imposed on agronomists from above. In such cases it also sometimes happens that agronomists fail to display a principled attitude, civic boldness and, ultimately, professional persistence. We've been ordered to, so, okay, we'll do it, but we're in the clear -- we can cite "objective" factors.

This kind of professional defeatism [samorazoruzheniye] by the agronomic services largely explains the fact that the average annual yield of grain crops in Pskov, Kalinin, Tula, Vitebsk and Nikolayev Oblasts and in the Latvian SSR has been lower in the 10th 5-Year Plan period than in the Ninth 5-Year Plan period, and in Kursk, Lipetsk and Tambov Oblasts (all of which are in the Russian Chernozem Region!) has been lower than in the eighth. And this despite the fact that farms now have more equipment at their disposal and are better supplied with mineral fertilizers.

A soil-protecting farming system with a variety of adaptations, to suit any locale from Kazakhstan's virgin lands to Poltava and Ivanovno Oblasts, has been devised in the country and has been widely tested and has proven its effectiveness. Convincing evidence of this system's effectiveness is cited every year at sessions of the V.I. Lenin All-Union Order of Lenin Academy of Agricultural Sciences. And yet it is used on less than one-third of the grain-growing area; even though a much greater percentage needs to be protected from wind erosion and drought.

This could be (and usually is) attributed to a certain shortage of technical resources, but practice shows that all too often agronomists are slow-witted and slow-acting even in regions with both the requisite machinery and rich soil. This is the case, for example, on a number of farms in Krasnoyarsk Kray, the southern Ukraine and in oblasts in the Central Chernozem Region.

Representatives of this honored and highly responsible profession have their work cut out to ensure that our land becomes richer and more bounteous. They must be helped in this by agroindustrial associations and scientific establishments.

The present unusually warm and early spring has already posed agronomists many questions. It is to be hoped that they will answer them skillfully and that as a result the country will have a good harvest.

USSR MARKS V-E DAY; MILITARY LEADERS COMMENT

Marshal Kulikov

PM101226 Moscow TRUD in Russian 9 May 83 p 1

[Article by Marshal of the Soviet Union V. Kulikov, USSR first deputy defense minister and commander-in-chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces: "An Immortal Exploit"]

[Text] It is 38 years since the historic moment when, on the night of 8-9 May 1945, in a Berlin suburb, the fascist high command was forced to sign the act of unconditional surrender of all its Armed Forces on land, at sea, and in the air. Laid low and routed, the Third Reich ceased to exist. Now we are able to see with particular clarity that the immortal exploit of Soviet soldiers and the working class, kolkhoz peasantry, intelligentsia, and all working people of the Soviet Union in the fight to the death against fascism had a powerful influence on mankind's progress.

For our state the war was a severe ordeal. Having perfidiously violated the nonaggression treaty, Hitlerite Germany struck the Soviet Union with massive forces. The strike involved 5.5 million well-armed crack fascist troops with 5,000 aircraft, 3,700 tanks, and more than 50,000 guns and mortars. The fascists destroyed industrial centers, cities, and villages and savagely annihilated the peaceful populace, including children, sick people, and the elderly.

Soviet people's path to victory was long and incredibly hard. For 1,418 days and nights they fought the invading hordes of aggressors in battles spread over a vast terrain 6,200 km wide and a front stretching from the cliffs of the Arctic to the southern seas. And if, in traveling this path, our people demonstrate to the whole world the unshakable strength of socialist foundations, this was primarily because the Communist Party -- the inspirer and organizer of all our victories -- at no point and in no way deviated from all-conquering Marxist-Leninist doctrine.

As the country pays homage to the participants in the war and the labor veterans, alive and dead, who were part of that epoch-making war, one's mind drifts back to events which have made an indelible mark. My first encounter with the war was on 22 June 1941 as a lieutenant in the small Ukrainian town of Vladimir-Volynskiy. I was second in command of a reconnaissance company in the 41st Tank Division. It was in those distant and grim days that I first witnessed the fascists' monstrous cruelty, which was boundless and indescribable. Together with the other troops in the border zone I experienced the anguish of retreat and the 8 days of heavy fighting on escaping from encirclement; I saw a multitude of examples of heroic behavior by soldiers and officers who gave their lives for their beloved motherland. I will remember always the names of the men in my regiment with whom I had my first lessons in military fortitude, bravery, and steadfastness in big and bloody battles against aggressors.

Battle by battle, the power of the Soviet Army's strikes against the enemy grew. Its vigorous defensive actions, which developed into the counteroffensive near Moscow in December 1941, led to the failure of the Blitzkreig, dispelled forever the myth of the Hitlerite Army's invincibility, and laid a firm foundation for future successes. There followed the heroic Stalingrad epic, the battle for the Caucasus, the battle at the Orel-Kursk bulge, the breaking of the Leningrad blockade, the liberation of Soviet Karelia, the rout of the fascists in the Right-Bank Ukraine and in Crimea, the Korsun-Shevchenkovskaya, Belorussian, Lvovsko-Sandomirskaya, Yassko-Kishinevskaya, and other operations, and, finally, the victorious assault on Berlin.

The Soviet troops' great liberation campaign through the countries of central and southeast Europe, which began after very heavy strikes against the enemy in summer and fall 1944, demonstrated once again to the whole world not only the courage and heroism of our soldiers but also their warmth and magnanimity and the inexhaustible moral strength of the Leninist principles of internationalism and proletarian solidarity. Thanks to them, millions of people in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Albania, Austria, Norway, and other countries, doomed to die from hunger, wounds, or diseases, were restored to life and delivered from the fascist plague. Many states which had been liberated from the Nazi yoke obtained their independence and gained the chance to choose their path of development. Priceless collections of paintings and masterpieces of sculpture, outstanding architectural monuments, and large literary collections were saved.

The victory over Hitlerite Germany was a victory for all the freedom-loving peoples. The states of the anti-Hitler coalition and the heroes of the resistance in countries occupied by the aggressors fought with the Soviet Union in the struggle against fascism. Subunits, units, and formations from Czechoslovakia, Poland, Yugoslavia, and, following the disintegration of the fascist bloc, Bulgarian and Romanian forces fought side by side with the Soviet Army. Hungarian patriots and German antifascists played a big part. The Soviet Union was also aided by the fraternal Mongolian people. But it was the USSR and its Armed Forces which played the decisive part in the route of fascism.

Having upheld the honor and independence of the motherland, the gains of October, and the caused bequeathed by V.I. Lenin and having released the enslaved peoples from fascist captivity, Soviet people channeled all their energy into boosting the economy, which had been hard hit by the war. In order to comprehensively ensure the necessary conditions for this, the entire foreign policy of the Communist Party and Soviet Government was directed toward strengthening peace and international security. In line with this policy, the USSR Armed Forces were reduced by more than two-thirds in the immediate postwar years. As early as 1946 constructive proposals on banning the production and use of atomic energy for military purposes were submitted for examination by the UN General Assembly. A law was adopted prohibiting war propaganda in the USSR. In May 1948 and in January-February 1949 further peace-loving initiatives were put forward: gradual disarmament, the sides' renunciation of the settlement of any differences by military means, and the conclusion of a peace pact.

And although all these Soviet proposals met with the approval of the U.S. public and all peace-loving forces in the West, the U.S. ruling circles rejected them. Unhappy with the military-political and socioeconomic results of World War II, blinded by hatred of socialism, and enraged by the growth of the Soviet land's prestige, they not only refused after the war to accompany the USSR further along the path of concord and cooperation but set about wrecking the 1945 Potsdam agreements, whipped up anti-Soviet, antisocialist hysteria, embarked on the path of confrontation and cold war mongering, and switched to a global expansionist, strong-arm, reactionary policy. At the same time, it turned out later, they were working on top secret plans for an atomic bombardment of the most important targets in the USSR and were contemplating using chemical and bacteriological weapons.

In 1948 the U.S. leaders began openly and hastily to establish numerous military bases and bridgeheads around the USSR and the young socialist states and to knock together aggressive blocs. They placed very great and sinister hopes on the aggressive NATO military-political bloc set up in 1949. The transatlantic strategists had two main purposes here: to have charge of a coalition directed against the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries in Europe and to keep Western Europe dependent and prevent the creation in this very important part of the world of any other coalitions which might oppose the United States and pursue an independent policy.

In this complex situation the communist and workers parties and the governments of the European socialist countries not only actively put forward various peace-loving initiatives and sought their implementation, but were also forced, 6 years after NATO came into being, to form a defensive political alliance -- the Warsaw Pact Organization -- on 14 May 1955 in order to pool their efforts in defense of socialism and safeguard peace and the peoples' security. Thus, the historical facts show beyond question that U.S. imperialism was responsible for the appearance of two opposing military groupings in Europe and for the splitting of the world into military blocs.

Obsessed by the wild idea of destroying socialism and seeking revenge for numerous defeats, imperialism, above all U.S. imperialism, is now banking on building up military might and demolishing the strategic military balance between the USSR and the United States and between the defensive Warsaw Pact Organization and the aggressive NATO bloc. In this connection, according to Pentagon estimates, a further $750 billion must be added to the unprecedented 5-year military expenditure of $1.6 trillion planned by the Reagan administration. This is not just irresponsibility, nor is it even "brinkmanship." It is banking on a world war. Following in the wake of the aggressive U.S. policy and under U.S. pressure, Britain, the FRG, and other NATO countries are increasing their military expenditure.

At the same time, imperialism has launched a big international campaign of lies to inhibit the social process in Europe and the world, paralyze the workers and communist movement, and discredit and undermine the unity of the socialist community. It was to this end that Washington ostentatiously proclaimed the "Program of Democracy and Public Diplomacy," which boils down to the fact that the United States is trying to arrogate to itself the right to indulge in massive interference in other states' affairs on the pretext of "defending democracy."

All the actions and aspirations of U.S. and NATO militarist forces are geared, as a special directive from the U.S. President said, to the creation of prerequisites for a most active struggle to "destroy socialism as a social and political system."

But the history of the Great Patriotic War and the postwar development of countries and peoples shows that the past is inseparable from the present: It was the enemies of socialism who ended up on the garbage heap. And if the past is inseparable from the present, the present has a responsibility to the future! For that reason the Warsaw Pact states are compelled to earnestly display concern to maintain their defense capability at the requisite level. The Soviet Union and the other socialist countries have tirelessly fought and are fighting for a freeze, for the limitation and cessation of the race involving the most dangerous modern types of mass destruction weapons -- nuclear weapons -- for their total prohibition, and for the use of nuclear energy exclusively for peaceful purposes. This is the aim of the CPSU and Soviet Government's new proposals and initiatives contained in the speeches by Comrade Yu.V. Andropov and other Soviet leaders. This is also served by the Warsaw Pact countries' Prague Political Declaration.

But let no one take the socialist community states' love of peace as a sign of weakness and try to use the language of threats and diktat. The socialist countries need neither foreign lands nor riches. But they will never relinquish that which is their own, all that they infinitely treasure and cherish. The majesty of the exploit of the Soviet people and their Armed Forces in the Great Patriotic War is a reminder of this, and it is evidenced by the communist and workers parties' titanic and consistent efforts in the struggle for peace. It is guaranteed by the high combat readiness of the Joint Armed Forces' personnel and the Warsaw Pact states' constant concern for everything necessary to ensure inevitable retribution for an attack on the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries.

Marshal Ogarkov

PM101550 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 May 83 Morning Edition pp 1-2

[Article by Marshal of the Soviet Union N. Ogarkov, chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff and first deputy defense minister: " The Victory and the Present Day"]

[Text] The date 9 May 1945 has a special place in the historical annals of the world's first land of the soviets. That was the day of our great victory over fascist Germany, the victory of the forces of progress and humanism over lack reaction and barbarity. Our people and their Army, at the cost of tremendous sacrifices and privations, not only upheld their motherland's freedom and independence, but also gave international assistance to many peoples of Europe and Asia, open in the flood gates to further social progress and democracy in the world.

Soviet people and Army and Navy servicemen are greeting the 38th anniversary of the victory in an atmosphere of great political and labor enthusiasm, in the conditions of the Soviet state's growing prestige in the world arena.

The working people of the fraternal socialist countries and all progressive manking are marking this holiday with us.

I

Mankind has lived through many big and small wars. But World War II has no equal in history in terms of its political goals' its scale, and its bitterness. It engulfed 61 states and more than 80 percent of the globe's population. The flames of war raged for 2,194 days and nights on the territory of 40 countries in Europe, Asia, and Africa and on all the world's oceans and took more than 50 million human lives.

World War II was unleased by international imperialism. The main weight of responsibility for preparing and unleashing it certainly rests above all with the Hitlerite fascist clique and the rulers of its satellites -- fascist Italy and militarist Japan. But it musts be noted that significant responsibility for the outbreak of the world conflagration rests with the ruling circles then in power in the United States, Britain, France, and a number of other capitalist states. They nurtured the fascist hordes in central Europe, seeking to direct them against the Soviet Union.

Today it is obvious that politicans and strategists in Washington, London, and Paris made a gross miscalculation at that time. Fascist Germany preferred to begin its campaign for world dominance by attacking the neighboring capitalist countries, and by 1941 it had swallowed up half of Europe. In these conditions Britain, France, and later the United States were forced to create an anti-Hitler coalition. But even after that, as history shows, they were by no means striving for the speediest defeat of Hitler's Reich, but were playing a double game -- the game of bringing about the greatest possible exhaustion in war both for the Soviet Union and for fascist Germany, with the aim of securing for themselves the leading position in the postwar world. So it was no accident that they opened up the second from in Western Europe not in 1942, as stipulated, but only in June 1944.

The victory over fascism was secured by the joint efforts of many countries' peoples and armies. But the Soviet Union made the decisive contribution to the defeat of the fascist militaristic bloc. It was on the Soviet-German front -- the main front of World War II -- that the fate of the victory was decided. And no bourgeois falsifiers can conceal that historical truth.

The victory secured in the Great Patriotic War over our motherland's enemies was a victory for the Soviet social and state system. Socialism withstood the severest tests with honor and demonstrated its indisputable superiority over capitalism in all spheres -- political, economic, social, ideological and military. On the battlefields of the Great Patriotic War Soviet servicemen were shielded by the immortal name of the great Lenin, the organizer and creator of our Army.

In the bitter confrontation with the enemy, a convincing victory was secured by the Soviet Armed Forces and our military science and military art. In the war years Soviet troops carried out dozens of strategic operations, some 250 front operations, and many hundreds of army operations, the vast majority of which are regarded to this day as models of leading military art. They provide clear evidence of Soviet soldiers' unparalleled heroism and the force of Soviet weaponry and of the great talent of Soviet military leaders and the combat maturity of commanders and political workers.

Exceptionally fruitful activity was carried out in the war years by the General Headquarters of the Supreme High Command, headed by I.V. Stalin. Deputy Supreme High Commanders Marshals G. Zhukov and A. Vasilevskiy, other members of the Supreme High Command General Headquarters, and its main organ of administration, the General Staff, were up to the tasks facing the General Headquarters.

The outcome of the struggle against the hated enemy was decided not only on the battlefields, but also in the rear. During the war our industry, despite significant losses and damage sustained, produced more than 100,000 tanks, 830,000 guns and mortars, more than 112,000 aircraft, and much other weaponry and military hardware -- nearly twice as much as fascist Germany and its satellites put together, and of much better quality.

Our glorious Communist Party was the wise leader, organizer, and captain of the Soviet people and their Armed Forces in the last war. Armed with Marxist-Leninist teaching, it confidently led the Soviet people to the great victory.

The victory over fascism -- the strike force of international reaction -- demonstrated to the whole world the invincible vitality of the new society born in Great October. The world's first socialist state emerged from the war even stronger. A major historical consequence of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War was the formation of the world socialist system. This historic victory created the conditions for the rapid upsurge of national liberation movements among oppressed peoples.

The results of the Great Patriotic War once again showed convincingly that imperialism is important to turn back the wheel of history. These results are a stern warning to those who like military adventures and to the new claimants to world domination.

No forces exist in the world capable of stopping the victorious march of socialism on the planet. And none will exist!

II

With the end of World War II the peoples sincerely hoped that the tremendous sacrifices they had made on the altar of victory would exclude from life forever any new horrors of war and that the long-awaited, long-lasting peace would at last be established in the world.

Reactionary Western circles acted otherwise. The salvos of World War II had hardly died down when the U.S. rulers started elaborating new aggressive plans, this time against the USSR -- their ally in the anti-Hitler coalition. As early as 1945 the U.S. military-political leadership, having a monopoly of nuclear weapons, was examining the possibility of using them on the Soviet Union's territory.

Subsequently increasingly sinister plans appeared one after another: in 1948, the Charioteer Plan -- the use of 133 atom bombs on 70 Soviet cities in just the first 30 days of war; in 1949, the Dropshot Plan -- the use of 300 atom bombs and 250,000 tons of conventional bombs to destroy some 85 percent of Soviet industry; in 1950 the Trojan Plan envisaged the use of more than 300 atom bombs, now against 100 Soviet cities. For the implementation of these plans, aggressive military-political blocs were organized (NATO, CENTO, SEATO, and others) and a network of military bases and other military sites was set up around our country. Their number has now reached 1,500.

It is not the desire to strengthen peace which determines the emergence of new military doctrines and strategic concepts in the United States. Even their titles -- in the late forties and the fifties, "massive retaliation"; in the sixties, "flexible response"; in the seventies, "realistic deterrence"; in the eighties, "direct confronation" -- are evidence of American imperialism's frenzied aggressiveness. And it is no accident that the United States inflates its military budget from year to year and opens up more and more new channels for the arms race, convulsively striving to undermine the Soviet Union's economy and achieve military superiority. And all this is done under cover of shamelessly false, hackneyed fabrications about some mythical "Soviet military threat."

It is not only a question of fabrications, doctrines, and budgets, but also of aggressive actions. In the post war period Washington has threatened to use force more than 200 times and has used it more than once.

At present the United States, making wide use of the CIA and the NATO countries' special services, is implementing numerous provocations and subversions and economic sabotage with the aim of destabilizing the international situation, driving a wedge into relations between states and unleashing military conflicts. The United States continues to step up the undeclared war in Afghanistan, organizes bloody orgies in El Salvador and steps up military provocations against Cuba and Nicaragua. It provoked the senseless war between Iran and Iraq and does all it can to support and encourage the Israeli aggressors in the Near East, the South African racists' piratical actions in Angola and Mozambique, and the bloody antipopular regime in Chile. Near our Far Eastern borders, Japan, which is increasingly in the grip of militarist fever, is being drawn energetically into aggressive U.S. plans.

In the world today there is a growing threat of a new world war, just as there was in the thirties. World imperialism, international Zionism, and reaction seek to recarve the world to suit themselves, come what may. That course has become particularly dangerous recently in connection with the Reagan administration's actions. The U.S. Administration, while hypocritically expatiating on its alleged adherence to peace, stubbornly ignores the peace-loving proposals of the USSR and the other Warsaw Pact countries. In the "Defense Guidance for 1984-88" elaborated on the White House's instructions, the "elimination of socialism as a sociopolitical system" is set as the main objective. In addition to this on 23 March this year the U.S. President announced the commencement of the development of a new generation of ABM weapons, which will inevitably entail a new spiral in the arms race and cannot fail to have a negative effect on the entire international situation.

In contrast to the aggressive U.S. course, the Soviet Union, together with the other socialist community countries, persistently and consistently pursues a policy aimed at peaceful cooperation, and advocates the radical resolution of the disarmament problem, the prevention of nuclear catastrophe, and a new world war. This is the aim of the Soviet Peace initiatives put forward by Comrade Yu. V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. They provide for both the elimination of the material means of waging war and the creation of political barriers to the unleashing of war. They cover both nuclear and conventional arms. They take account of the legitimate security interests of both the European peoples and the peoples of the whole world.

Speaking at a dinner in honor of the GDR party and state delegation, Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, speaking of the talks on medium-range nuclear facilities in Europe, noted that we are in favor of the USSR's having no more missiles or warheads mounted on them than there are on the NATO side in each mutually agreed period. With a reduction in the number of warheads on British and French missiles, the number of warheads on our medium-range missiles would be reduced by the same number. The same approach would be extended to aviation systems in this class deployed in Europe. Approximate equality would thus be maintained between the USSR and NATO both in delivery vehicles for medium-range nuclear weapons -- that is, missiles and aircraft -- and in the number of warheads mounted on them, and this equality would be at a considerably lower level than at present.

"He who again says 'No,'" Comrade Yu.V. Andropov stated, "in reply to this proposal of ours will be assuming a grave responsibility toward the peoples of Europea and the whole world..."

"All peoples and governments must be aware of the degree of this danger and do all they can to safeguard peace and turn the development of events back toward detente."

These peace initiatives and far-reaching proposals were recieved by the world public with understanding and hope. Unfortunately there has not yet been any positive reaction from the NATO states' governments. And that cannot but cause concern.

The lessons of World War II, and above all the Great Patriotic War, insistently require the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries to display the highest vigilance and make it incumbent on them to show tireless concern for their defense capability.

III

The training of our Armed Forces and the development of Soviet military science and military art take place on the basis of the invaluable experience of the Great Patriotic War. During the war Soviet military doctrine and the basic tenets of our military thought were subjected to a severe test. And they passed the test of war. But the war did make amendments. It introduced much that was new to the theory and practice of military matters. The experience acquired in combat is widely used to this day in the practice of the operational, combat and political training of our troops.

Nearly 40 years have elapsed since the Great Patriotic War. In that time radical quantitative and qualitative changes have taken place in military matters. The military art does not stand still. And the new war, if the imperialists unleash it, will differ sharply from the last.

Since the fifties nuclear weapons have been the decisive means of armed struggle. The arsenal of various kinds of nuclear warheads and means of delivery stockpiled in the world runs to many tens of thousands. These quantitative changes have led to qualitative changes -- what could be achieved by nuclear weapons 20-30 years ago is impossible for an aggressor now. A crushing retaliatory nuclear strike awaits him!

At the same time existing strategic as well as operational and tactical means of waging the armed struggle are being energetically improved and new ones are being created on the basis of the latest achievements of electronics and other technical sciences. Considerably improved automated systems of control of troops and weapons and highly effective new conventional means of the armed struggle are being developed and introduced. The framework of the armed struggle is also being considerably extended. In the United States, for instance, they are creating space strike systems for military purposes and weapons complexes based on new physical principles.

Naturally, all this cannot fail to influence the nature of a possible war and the forms and methods of preparing and waging modern operations and combat.

That is why it is important not simply to remember the lessons of the last war and the conclusions drawn by military art in those years, but -- most importantly -- on the basis of existing experience, to SEE AND UNDERSTAND THE PROSPECTS OF DEVELOPMENT OF MILITARY MATTERS IN FUTURE, TO INTERPRET DIALECTICALLY AND CREATIVELY THE CHANGES TAKING PLACE IN THE MEANS AND METHODS OF ARMED STRUGGLE, AND TO ADOPT APPROPRIATE MEASURES IN GOOD TIME TO FURTHER INCREASE THE COMBAT READINESS OF TROOPS AND NAVAL FORCES. [passage printed in boldface] Inertia of thought and the stubborn, mechanical, unthinking hanging on to the old ways are dangerous in present-day conditions.

In view of the changes taking place in military matters and the aggressive preparations of the United States and its allies, a particularly well thought out and harmonious development of the Soviet Armed Forces, categories of troops, and special troops is required, as well as the timely improvement of the organizational structure of troops and control organs.

In the new war, if the imperialists manage to unleash it, it will not be possible to confine military operations within some limited framework, as Washington strategists advertise. The war would inevitably embrace the entire territories of the warring states and it would be hard to distinguish the front from the rear. The methods of resolving tasks could also be different, particularly at the start of the war. Hence the special role and significance of the initial period of war in present-day conditions.

The experience of initial operations in the Great Patriotic War has already resulted in substantial amendments to the views which existed earlier. In 1941 large-scale operations were launched immediately on a huge front, with profound penetration, and were conducted with the most decisive objectives.

Now the situation has become still more complex in this respect. Most imperialist states have various long-range systems with tremendous destructive force in a state of permanent combat readiness. Even in peacetime they maintain highly mobile groupings of armed forces capable of beginning hostilities immediately, without preliminary deployment. This predetermines the unprecedentedly intensive, destructive nature of operations in the initial period of war and requires large-scale, extremely accurate actions from the defender in the very first hours to rebuff the attack. In present-day conditions these actions could be decisive, as is indicated by experience in local wars. This makes it incumbent on us to analyze in depth and consider comprehensively imperialism's aggressive preparations and its true military doctrines and concepts, which will enable us to determine in good time the possibility of surprise operations and the new means and methods of armed struggle which could be used by the aggressor.

The experience of the last war demonstrated the exceptional significance of the control of troops and naval forces for the successful conduct of military operations. Demands on the combat control of the Armed Forces in operations on land, at sea and in the air and on its stability, reliability and flexibility are now acquiring a qualitatively new character. Decisions will be adopted in a short space of time, tasks will occur in a matter of minutes, and the art of fulfilling them will require great intensiveness. This gives rise to the need to have control organs in peacetime capable of operating immediately at the start of a war, without prolonged restructuring.

To this end in our Armed Forces the combat readiness of troops and staffs and the ground, air and sea training of personnel are constantly improved, the organizational structure of troops, Naval Forces and control organs is perfected and military theoretical thought is steadily developed.

The Leninist principles of the building and training of our Armed Forces are fundamental to this day in examining all questions connected with strengthening our motherland's defense might.

Of course, the Armed Forces' combat readiness and combat capability are important elements, but by no means the only elements, in strengthening the state's defense. As the experience of the last war showed, the Armed Forces can only operate successfully on the basis of a mighty scientific, technical and economic base functioning steadily in the course of the war. In view of this, in the interests of strengthening the country's defense capability, the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government are implementing [osushchestvlyayut] important measures to further increase the defense potential and the mobilization readiness of industry, agriculture, transport, and other sectors of the national economy and to ensure their timely preparation for the transfer to a war footing in case of necessity. Much work is also done in the patriotic education of Soviet people in the spirit of high responsibility for the defense of their socialist fatherland, the organization of universal military training and the preparation of young people for military service. All this guarantees the reliable safeguarding of the security of the Soviet state and its allies against an aggressor's attack.

Victory Day is one of our most joyful, precious holidays. It is the symbol of the greatness of the immortal feat accomplished by the Soviet people and their Armed Forces in the terrible years of the Great Patriotic War. On this day we dip our combat banners in memory of the Soviet people who gave their lives for our motherland's freedom and independence and for our people's happiness. On this day we honor war and labor veterans, heroes of the front and rear, servicemen in the reserves and in retirement and all who staunchly, courageously defended the honor and independence of the great Soviet fatherland. We express heartfelt gratitude and boundless thanks to our own Leninist party, under whose tried and tested leadership the Soviet people won world wide historic victory in the Great Patriotic War and are now confidently following the path to communism.

The Soviet people and the servicemen of their heroic Armed Forces, fighting persistently to build communism in the country and to consolidate universal peace, always remember the terrible lessons of the last war and do everything necessary to ensure that nobody can ever catch us unawares.

Marshal Sokolov

OW101415 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 0425 GMT 9 May 83

[Address by Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergey Leonidovich Sokolov, USSR first deputy minister of defense and hero of the Soviet Union, on the occasion of Victory Day; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] Today the Soviet people, working people of the fraternal socialist countries and all progressive mankind are solemnly marking the 38th anniversary of the Soviet people's great victory over fascist Germany. The celebration of Victory Day is passing in an atmosphere of lofty political and labor activity evoked by the Soviet people's ardent desire to implement the historic decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and of subsequent plenums of the Central Committee as well as the tasks of the 3d year of the 5-year plan period.

Workers of cities and villages and the servicemen of the Soviet Army and Navy are enveloped by a patriotic upsurge and are persistently striving for further economic and social development of socialist society, raising the material and cultural level of the working peoples' lives, and strengthening the country's defense capability.

In celebrating Victory Day we experience lofty and pure feelings. We are proud of the fact that our motherland has achieved unprecedented heights in its economy, science, and culture and we are gladdened by the fact that the new generations of Soviet people are striving to be worthy of the unparalleled feats of their fathers, who endured an enormous burden during the past war. As we celebrate Victory Day we bow our heads before the respectful memory of the fearless sons and daughters of our people who bravely fell for the freedom and independence of our motherland and for the triumph of our just cause. We honor the frontline troops and workers of the rear and all who contributed with their selfless fortitude and courage to the defeat of the German fascist aggressors.

The Great Patriotic War was the gravest war ever experienced by our motherland. It was distinguished by the enormous scope of the struggle and was not simply a clash of armies but was also an uncompromising struggle of two opposite social systems. In battles against the fascist aggressors the Soviet people defended the cause of Great October, their socialist system and their native power and upheld the freedom and independence of other states and peoples.

Treacherously violating the nonaggression treaty, fascist Germany flung an enormous invasion army against the Soviet state. However, no difficulties could break the fighting spirit of the Soviet servicemen or shake the staunchness of the people in their boundless faith in victory over the enemy. The Red Army, dealing increasingly powerful blows against the aggressors, achieved many remarkable victories. The defense of Leningrad, Odessa, Sevastapol, and Kiev demonstrated the firm staunchness of the Soviet people and their readiness to defend every foot of their native land without regard for their lives. Large forces of the Hitlerite Army were wiped out near the walls of the legendary hero cities. The soldiers and troops, heroes of Sevastapol, defended their city for 250 days; the battles on the Neva continued for 900 days and nights. Neither the furious attacks of the enemy nor the hunger and privations of the blockade could break the will and staunchness of the heroic defenders of Lenin's city.

The Hitlerite command particularly counted on the capture of Moscow, the capital of our motherland. The enemy concentrated his main forces on its approaches. Crack divisions were sent here. Hitler was informed that the spires of the Kremlin were already visible through binoculars and the fascist leaders were preparing for a festive parade in Red Square. But the Hitlerite blitzkrieg plan suffered complete defeat. The enemy was smashed and pushed back from the capital of the socialist motherland in stubborn battles.

Our victory at Moscow had enormous military and political significance. German fascism suffered its first major military defeat in World War II. The myth of the invincibility of the German fascist army was dispelled. The peoples of the world began believing in the real possibility of the destruction of the aggressors. The rout of the invaders at Moscow was the stern herald of the total defeat of fascism.

One of the decisive events of the Great Patriotic War was the battle of Stalingrad, in which the Soviet Army displayed unbendable will and heroism unequaled in the history of war and achieved a brilliant victory. This marked the beginning of the basic turnaround of the war. The defeat on the Volga shook the fascist empire to its foundations. For 3 days the funereal knell resounded over Hitlerite Germany, which went into mourning because of the rout of a 330,000-strong military force. The gigantic battle at the Orel-Kursk bulge in the summer of 1943 broke the backbone of Hitlerite Germany and crushed its shock armored forces. The superiority of our Army in combat skill, arms and in operational and strategic leadership became evident to the whole world.

The partisan movement at the enemy's rear was widespread.

In 1943 some 250,000 people's avengers fought the fascists on occupied territory, and 24 underground oblast and more than 200 okrug, city, rayon and district party committees were in operation. Truly heroic deeds by Soviet people at the front and in the rear marked 1944, a year of mass expulsion of the fascist invaders from Soviet land. Our Army realized a series of brilliant offensive operations which allowed the Soviet land to be completely rid of fascist hordes and marked the beginning of the liberation of many of the enslaved countries of Europe.

Unfolding an immense offensive along the entire front from Leningrad to the Black Sea, our forces routed the principal forces of Hitler's army and thereby put it on the brink of utter and final defeat. In 1945 shattering strikes by the Soviet forces on Hitler's armies in east Prussia, western Poland, Czechoslovakia, and the immense Berlin operation concluded the rout of fascist Germany and forced its complete and unconditional capitulation. Soviet troops hoisted the red flag of our victory on the Reichstag.

The outcome of the Great Patriotic War was natural. Our victory had deep social sources conditioned by the entire historical development of the Soviet state and by objective possibilities instilled in the very nature of socialism by the fundamental advantages of the socialist social and state systems over capitalist systems. The war subjected the socialist social system to a severe all-round test, which it endured with honor. The Soviet economic, system on the whole, and the military economy in particular, won out. The makers of victory were the great Soviet people unified by the Communist Party into one harmonious family.

The Soviet Union blocked the road of the fascist aggressors to world domination and achieved what turned out to be beyond the powers of any country in the West and deprived the aggressor of the most important element; namely, the means to wage war. The fascist Hitler army lost more than 70 percent of its personnel, tanks, aircraft and artillery in battles against the Soviet Army. Having routed the principal forces of Hitler's army and its allies, the Soviet Army directly assisted the peoples of European states in their deliverance from German occupation. Our victory in the Great Patriotic War was natural also because the Soviet people and their Army was educated in the spirit of Marxist-Leninist ideology and because the struggle of the Soviet people against the aggressor was headed by our Leninist Communist Party, the political leader of the Soviet society, tested and hardened by class struggles.

Throughout the war years the party sent more than 1.64 million of its sons and daughters into the Army and the (?Navy). They were always in the most crucial areas, where it was more difficult and where success was determined. In extremely difficult conditions the party was able in the shortest possible time to mobilize all the material and spiritual forces of the public to rout the enemy; to ensure the unity of the political, economic, and military leadership; and to unite the country into one, mighty battle camp. Its Central Committee was a genuine headquarters which exercised superior leadership over military actions. The wisdom of this leadership was convincingly displayed by the fact that in all indicators -- technical equipment, combat skill, and moral spirit -- our Armed Forces surpassed the army of fascist Germany, which was regarded as the strongest army in the capitalist world at that time.

The Soviet people highly assess and recognize all those who fought for the just cause and participated in the struggle against the fascist invaders, and who contributed to total victory.

The Great Patriotic War exposed the true culprit of the aggression, international imperialism. This is convincingly confirmed by the secret archives of Hitlerite Germany. Fascist aggression against the Soviet Union represented the more than 20-year-old general course of policies of international imperialism. Now, too, imperialism is repeatedly bringing mankind to the brink of a new world war by unleashing numerous military conflicts.

In close cooperation with fraternal socialist countries and other peace-loving states and with the support of all progressive forces of mankind, the Communist Party and the Soviet Government are conducting a policy of actively defending peace and strengthening international security. At the same time the Communist Party and the Soviet Government invariably display superior vigilance and take necessary measures in strengthening our motherland's defense capability.

The Great Patriotic War revealed the most characteristic and most dangerous method of the unleashing of war by imperialism. Treachery and the invasion of foreign territory without a declaration of war became in a way characteristics of the piracy of imperialist aggressors. However, contemporary advocates of war also depend on surprise attacks. Their aggressive, strategic conceptions and doctrines which threaten the world -- a preemptive nuclear strike, a limited nuclear war, and others -- are based on the calculation of winning a war by being the first to use nuclear weapons. Such an adventurous policy entails extremely dangerous consequences for the cause of peace.

Yuriy Valdimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, said in answering the questions of a PRAVDA correspondent: All attempts to attain military superiority over the Soviet Union are futile. The Soviet Union will never permit this. It will never find itself disarmed in the face of any threat. Let Washington soundly digest this. It is time they stopped inventing newer and newer options of the best way of unleashing a nuclear war with the hope of winning it. This pursuit is not only irresponsible but also reckless.

The great Patriotic War revealed the indisputable superiority of our military organization over the military organization of the aggressor. Soviet strategy, operational skill and tactics endured the severe test with honor. The Armed Forces conducted dozens of major operations, many of which are models of military skill. The victorious outcome of the Great Patriotic War and the utter rout of German Fascism decisively influenced the whole course of history. The peoples of many countries again found independence and cast off the fascist yoke. The world socialist system, the leading force of the world revolutionary process, was created and became firmly established. The movement of democratic and peace-loving forces acquired a mighty scope. All colonial empires suffered complete collapse. Looking back we can today with genuine pride say that the efforts and sacrifices of our peoples were not in vain. We are fully utilizing the possibility of peaceful construction which was gained at a dear price.

The appearance of the Soviet Armed Forces has changed dramatically in the years since the war. Because of the achievements of scientific and technical progress and the selfless labor of the Soviet people, our Army and Navy possess powerful combat potential. As was noted at the 26th CPSU Congress, they represent a firm fusion of superior technical equipment, military skill, and invincible moral spirit. However, this potential threatens no one. It serves the noble cause of defending the peaceful and constructive labor of the Soviet people and the cause of universal peace and international security.

Now the sons and grandsons of those who heroically fought the German fascist invaders who selflessly forget victory on the labor front stand in the ranks of defenders of the motherland. These are educated and physically and spiritually tempered citizens of the land of the soviets. They have not undergone the severe tests which fell to their fathers: However, in a similar way they are wholeheartedly true to the heroic traditions of our Army and our people and every time the interests of the country's security and the defense of peace require it, the Soviet soldier appears before the whole of mankind as an unselfish and brave patriot and internationalist capable of overcoming any difficulties.

Our Armed Forces are always ready to overwhelmingly repulse an aggressor.

This is why, marking the victory holiday, we say today: The lessons of the Great Patriotic War are a stern warning to the advocates of military adventures. Our country has something to defend, has something to defend it with, and has someone to defend it.

Dear comrades, allow me to congratulate all of you on our national holiday, Victory Day.

Admiral Gorshkov

PM111051 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 19, May 83 (Signed to Press 3 May 83) p 9

[Article by Twice Hero of the Soviet Union Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union S.G. Gorshkov, USSR deputy defense minister: "Soviet People's Great Victory"]

[Text] The Soviet people and their Armed Forces are greeting the 38th anniversary of the victory over fascism in an atmosphere in which the Communist Party and the entire Soviet people are persistently working to implement the socio-economic tasks set by the 26th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee May and November (1982) plenums. The party Central Committee and its Politburo are implementing a wide range of measures of an economic and organizational nature encouraging highly productive labor and mass initiative aimed at raising our state's economic might.

Against the background of the resolution of impressive constructive tasks, the magnitude of the Soviet people's world-historic exploit is visible to all mankind. "We pay tribute to the many generations of Soviet people of all nationalities, men and women, workers and peasants, intelligentsia, party and soviet workers, Armed Forces servicemen, Communists, and nonparty people -- to all those who built communism, defended it in a very hard war, and made reality the thousand-year-old dream of the peoples' equality, friendship, and fraternity," Comrade Yu. V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, noted in his report at the ceremonial session devoted to the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation.

The results of the Great Patriotic War are a stern lesson of history, a warning to aggressive circles ready to gamble on the vital interests of mankind for their own narrow selfish purposes.

Sources of Victory

The aggressor's suprise attack on our country in 1941 and the initial superiority of the German fascist troops' forces were unable to paralyze the Soviet people's will to repel the aggressor.

Under incredibly harsh conditions the Soviet Army and Navy delivered strikes of mounting force against the enemy. By late July and early August 1941 they were already able to contain and then halt the enemy troops. The heroic defense of the Hero Fortress of Brest and the Hero Cities of Moscow and Leningrad, Odessa, Sevastopol, Novorossiysk, and Kiev dispelled the Hitler command's illusions of easy victories.

From the first days of the war the country was faced with the task of rapidly reorganizing the national economy on a war footing and equipping Soviet servicemen with everything necessary for warfare. The majority of plants producing civilian output were switched to military production.

The resolution of this task was enormously complicated by the evacuation, frequently under enemy fire, of a large number of enterprises, equipment, and kolkhoz and sovkhoz property from western regions of the country to the east.

In the period July through November 1941 some 1,523 enterprises were evacuated to the Urals, Siberia, the Volga Region, and Kazakhstan. Over 10 million people were evacuated to regions behind the lines.

The commissioning of relocated enterprises at their new sites was no less complex and difficult. People forgot sleep and rest and did not go home for days on end. Frequently machine tools were set up under the open sky and the workers, without waiting for a roof to be built, set about producing output.

The kolkhoz peasantry worked hand in hand with the heroic working class. The brunt of agricultural work lay on the shoulders of women, youths, and old men. Under conditions of an acute shortage of tractors, trucks, and other equipment, the rural workers did everything possible to provide the country and the front with grain and other good.

Thanks to Soviet people's selfless labor in defending their socialist fatherland, our military industry, under more complex conditions than those of Germany's military industry, surpassed it in terms of both the quantity and quality of the weapons and combat equipment it produced. The fighting Soviet servicemen's uninterrupted supply of weapons, ammunition, and combat equipment helped them to defeat the enemy.

The decisive event of the first year of the Great Patriotic War was the historic battle of Moscow, where the main groupings of Soviet and German fascist troops clashed. In persistent, heavy fighting our servicemen, among whom the military seamen fight heroically, defeated the enemy and drove him back from Moscow. That was the first major defeat for Hitler's army in World War II and the start of a fundamental turning point in the Great Patriotic War.

The battle of Stalingrad, as a result of which the Soviet Army firmly and definitively grasped the strategic initiative, was of world-historic importance.

The battle of Kursk bulge, of gigantic scale and intensity, ended in the defeat of the enemy's crack armored divisions. The victory at Kursk and the Soviet troops' breakout to the Dnepr resulted in a fundamental break-through in the course of the Great Patriotic War and World War II as a whole.

The subsequent major strategic offensive operations by our troops at Leningrad, and in right-bank Ukraine, Belorussia, Moldavia, the Baltic states, and the Arctic led to the complete liberation of Soviet land. In 1944 the Soviet Armed Forces began their great liberation mission as a result of which the peoples of Poland, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, and other countries were saved from Hitler's tyranny.

Soviet servicemen covered themselves in unparalleled glory in the greatest final battle of the end of World War II -- the Berlin operation which ended in the total defeat of Hitler's army and the capitulation of fascist Germany. The banner of victory was hoisted over the Reichstag.

During the war, collaborating closely with the Soviet Army, the Navy firmly ensured the stability of the sea flanks, delivered powerful strikes against enemy bases and communications, defended our sea shipments, and actively supported the Ground Forces' combat operations. During the war over 100 million tons of diverse military cargo was shipped and over 110 assault parties were landed by sea. Our Navy's actions during the war caused Germany and its allies to lose over 2,500 ships and vessels.

During the war the Navy sent over 400,000 officers, petty officers, and sailors to the fronts on land, forming over 40 brigades and 6 separate regiments and a large number of separate battalions and detachments. All these formations and units were distinguished by their lofty combat qualities and fought on many crucial sectors of the front.

The Navy infantrymen's selfless bravery, boldness, and scorn for death terrified the Hitlerite occupiers and generated the admiration and respect of our own servicemen.

Love for the Soviet motherland and burning hatred of the enemy gave rise to the Soviet servicemen's historically unprecendented mass heroism. The sailors fought bravely, staunchly, and skillfully at sea, in the air, and on land. The exploits of the destroyers "Groznyy" and "Gremyashchiy;" the submarines under the command of M.I. Gadzhiyev, I.A. Kolyshkin, V.N. Kotelnikov, V.G. Starikov, F.A. Vidyayev, N.A. Luchin, and G.I. Shechedrin; Airmen B.F. Safonov, N.G. Stepanyan, A.Ye. Mazurenko, V.I. Rakov, A.K. Antonenko, and P.A. Brinko; and the bold attacks by launch crew members V.N. Alekseyev, V.P. Gumanenko, S.A. Osipov, and A.O. Shabalin will not fade over the centuries.

For the courage, staunchness, and martial valor they displayed in fighting the enemy, over 350,000 seamen were awared orders and medals, over 600 became Heroes of the Soviet Union, and 7 of them -- F.F. Safonov, A.O. Shabalin, V.N. Leonov, V.I. Rakov, N.G. Stepanyan, A.Ye. Mazurenko, and N.V. Chelnokov -- were awarded this title twice.

The historic victory of the Soviet people and their Armed Forces in the Great Patriotic War was profoundly law-governed. Its main sources were the Communist Party's wise leadership, the advantages of the Soviet social and state system, the ideological and sociopolitical unity of Soviet society, the friendship of the peoples of the USSR, life-giving Soviet patriotism and internationalism, and Soviet people's mass heroism on the front and in the rear.

Defense of peace

The course of international events shows that imperialism, primarily U.S. imperialism, disregardng the lessons of history, has not abondoned its gamble on force and is trying to dictate its will to the peoples and nurturing plans for destroying socialism.

Bellicose U.S. and NATO circles, under cover of the smokescreen of the myth of the "Soviet military threat," have steered a course toward disrupting detente and returning to the cold war, toward achieving military superiority over the world of socialism. By deploying MX missiles on U.S. territory and medim-range missiles in West Europe the ruling administration in Washington is counting on eliminating the present military equilibrium and achieving superiority over the USSR'S defense forces.

For the next fiscal year the U.S. government is planning to sacrifice on the altar of military preparations a gigantic sum -- $273 billion by comparison with $245 billion in the current fiscal year. The new U.S. budget serves as a graphic expression of aggressive imperialist policy, a policy of the frantically building up arms and pushing the world toward nuclear catastrophe.

Our country advocates disarmament talks and the search for a healthy, acceptable basis for resolving the most acute international problems. Our military doctrine is of a defensive orientation. The Soviet Union is not seeking military superiority. But at the same time, as Comrade Y.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, he pointed out, "a policy based on the desire to achieve military superiority over the Soviet Union is hopeless and can only intensify the threat of war."

Under the conditions of the sharp aggravation of international tension the Soviet state firmly and unswervingly adheres to Lenin's course toward peace. However, the USSR's love of peace not only does not rule out but on the contrary presupposes constant concern for the country's security.

Thanks to the Communist Party's tireless efforts and the Soviet people's selfless labor, our Army and Navy are provided with the most sophisticated weapons, including nuclear missile weapons, and powerful combat equipment. The Armed Forces' organizational structure, the system for training cadres, the theory and practice of the troops' training and education, and military science match modern military requirements.

Our Navy now has nuclear missile-carrying and multipurpose submarines, missile, antisubmarine, assault, and other surface ships, naval missile-carrying aircraft, and shipborne aircraft. The Navy has modern ASW weapons, an arsenal of electronic and automated equipment for controlling weapons and combat equipment, and reliable facilities for communication and navigation in any part of the world's oceans.

The impressive strike power of the Soviet Navy main forces, the high degree of maneuverability of ship and aircraft groupings, the extensive scope of its operations, the ability to deploy its forces rapidly and to deliver crushing strikes against targets on land and at sea, the constant combat readiness of its units and formations -- those are its main qualities.

Our people can rightly regard the creation of the mighty ocean-going Navy as one of their most outstanding labor exploits. It became possible thanks to our country's powerful military and economic potential, the major achievements of our science and technology, and the introduction of scientific methods of shipbuilding.

The Main, Decisive Force

The modern combat equipment of the Soviet Army and Navy is formidable. But it is people who comprise their main, decisive force.

Soviet military seamen are true masters of military matters. Inheriting everything valuable and progressive in the history of the fatherland's Navy, they are persistently mastering new equipment and weapons, and honing their martial skill.

Long ocean voyages under varying weather conditions have become the main school of vocational and combat training for Soviet military seamen. The crews of the ASW cruisers "Moskva," "Leningrad," and "Kiev," the cruisers "Oktyabrskaya Revolyutsiya," "Kirov," and "Dzerzhinskiy," and other ships are honorably carrying the motherland's flag on the lattitudes of the world's oceans.

Socialist competition, in which the Soviet servicemen's heightened social activeness is expressed, is a guarantee of new achievements by Army and Navy personnel. The spirit of competition between ships and the movement to become top formation are becoming increasingly active.

Competition under the slogan "Raise vigilance, reliably defend the motherland's security!" is gaining momentum in the Army and Navy with every passing day. Its initiators are the leading military collectives of all branches of the Armed Forces. In the Navy it is the nuclear-powered missile-carrying submarine of the Red Banner Pacific Fleet under the command of Captain First Rank Comrade Samokhvalov.

The servicemen of the patrol ships "Razitelnyy" and "Revnostnyy," the large ASW ship "Admiral Isakov," ASW cruiser "Kiev," and others are successfully fulfilling their long-voyage tasks. The crews of the missile-carrying cruiser "Groznyy" and the submarine "Ulyanovskiy Komsomolets," which has retained its excellent rating for many years, have many fine deeds to their credit.

Among the military seamen there are many genuine heroes of daily martial life. For instance, the officers D. Novikov, L. Kuverskiy, V. Kozlov, A. Gusev, and V. Lushin have been awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union in peace time.

Loyal to the cause of communism, the Soviet Armed Forces have traveled a glorious heroic path. They are greeting Victory Day mightier and more combat capable than ever before.

Soviet servicemen, closely tallied around Lenin's party and its Central Committee, are always ready together with their brothers-in-arms from the socialist community countries to honorably fulfill their sacred duty in defending socialism.

Marshal Petrov

PM111555 Moscow NEDELYA in Russian No 18 [Signed to Press 4 May 83] pp 2-3

[Interview with Hero of the Soviet Union, Marshal of the Soviet Union Vasiliy Ivanovich Petrov, commander in chief of Ground Forces and USSR deputy defense minister, conducted by Lieutenant Colonel Valeriy Kalinkin and Lieutenant Colonel Anatoliy Shesternev; no date or place given -- the first paragraph is an editorial introduction]

[Text] Once again Victory Day has come to the cheery streets of our cities and villages. All the same, in today's salute we will inevitably discern that very first Victory Day, the main holiday, and will no doubt hear, behind the thunder of today's guns, the chatter of automatic weapons which were victoriously shouldered there, by the Reichstag and by the Brandenburg Gate. And above all, we will be seeing and hearing, even after so many years, those who wrought victory, the soldiers and commanding officers of the frontline. Our interlocutor today belongs to that cohort. Vasiliy Ivanovich Petrov was a junior lieutenant, a platoon commander, at the start of the war. From the very first days until the very last he fought against the enemy on the Southern, Crimean, North Caucasus, Transcaucasian, Steppe, Voronezh, and first and second Ukrainian Fronts. He took part in military operations during the defense of Odessa, Sevastopol and the Caucasus, the Dnieper and Dniester crossings, and the liberation of Romania and Hungary. The war for him is a special landmark and a kind of reference point in deliberations about the past, the Soviet man's duty, the loyalty to traditions, and the meaning of military service.

[Question] Comrade Marshal of the Soviet Union! It is 38 years since the Soviet soldier raised the Flag of Victory over defeated Berlin. The generation of people born on, so to say, this side of the historic landmark of 9 May 1945 have been adults for a long time now. How would you begin your conversation with them today, on Victory Day?

[Answer] The same way as always. First of all I would remind them yet again: time confirms ever more vividly, weightily and fully the worldwide historic significance of our victory in the Great Patriotic War. There are, you know, some truths that do not age by repetition.

Let us talk a little in the language of arithmetic, because there are some figures that do not cease to astonish.

Thus, at dawn on 22 June 1941, our land was invaded by 190 enemy divisions, including 19 tank divisions and 14 motorized divisions. The group aimed directly against the Soviet Union consisted of 5.5 million soldiers and officers, about 4,300 tanks, and over 47,000 field guns and mortars.

All in all, fascist Germany had over 7 million men at arms. Let us compare: By June 1941 the numerical strength of the Soviet Armed Forces was 5,373,000 men. But if the enemy was superior to us in numbers we were superior in actual people, people with communist convictions, boundlessly devoted to the motherland, ready for heroic deeds and self-sacrifice in the name of lofty ideals, for the sake of the life of future generations.

Let us recall what was at stake: were we to survive or not, were we to exist as a state or not. We have survived and we exist because our land survived the grim trials of that time and its soldiers held out.

People say that history, apart from anything else, has its own sense of humour. It does, indeed, have a good laugh at those who dream of building their prosperity on the enslavement of other peoples. Just as the excessively bellicose Barbarossa drowned in a river a long time ago, so the river of oblivion and contempt has swallowed up the "Barbarossa" plan and those who hatched it with their delirious ideas about a lightning campaign against our land. It did not work out! It has not worked out for anyone, it will not work out ever. Neither through a lightning campaign, nor through any other campaign. We are saying this today. We also believed it then and there, in the battlefields. We believed it in the first days of the war, during the retreat to the east with continuous resistance. We also believed it when only the last few shells, the last few kilometers, and, finally, the last battle separated us from victory.

[Question] The last battle, is it the most difficult one?

[Answer] And how about the first? Do you think that it is any easier? The last battle may be more difficult psychologically -- after prolonged battles, everyone wants to see the flashes of the victory salute. But, on the other hand, the man who has reached the closing battle of the war has already been through the experience of other battles, including the very first one.

I recall my platoon's first battle. I see the young lads, for whom it was also the last. They fell, as the poet has said, facing west, in other words they did not turn their backs to the enemy.

This is the point I want to make. Today some people are inclined to describe the initial period of the Great Patriotic War as nearly a disorderly, almost panic-stricken retreat by our troops, almost a flight. We retreated because the enemy's superiority in equipment and personnel was initially overwhelming. A panic-stricken retreat? How do you then explain the heroic defense of the Brest fortress? Flight? How do you then reconcile it with this fact: As early as 30 July 1941 Hitler signed the first orders for "center" group of armies to move on to the defensive in certain sectors. And this at the height of the "blitzkrieg"?!

We should not play down our heavy losses during the war's first stages, but there is no need to overdramatize the situation, either. Of course, we were not psychologically prepared for war on our own territory; our military doctrine simply did not envisage such an eventuality. I cannot forget the smiling face of one of our platoon's soldiers. In the summer of 1941, when we repulsed one of the counterattacks and had advanced hardly any distance forward, the fighter asked me in all seriousness: "Tell me, comrade commanding officer, are we already in Germany?" No, I answered him, only halfway there.

[Question] Yes, that was the spirit of those times: "If we were to march on tomorrow...."

[Answer] That, I would say, is the spirit of any Soviet time. We checked our early experiences against Korchagin's armored train and tried to live up to the examples of Lazo and Chapayev, Frunze and Budennyy, Chkalov and Papanin's men. Today's young generation have yet another proud reference point: the heroism of the Great Patriotic War. There are Matrosov and Gastello, Karbyshev and Smirnov, Pokryshkin and Kozhedub, the Young Guard and Panfilov's 28 guards. There are also hundreds of thousands of unknown heroes, because our people's heroism is traditional.

[Question] Speaking of traditions, the commanding officers and political workers and the party and Komsomol organizations in the Armed Forces are paying special attention to this aspect of military training. Could we ask you to give some specific examples from the life and combat training of the Ground Forces to show how the experience of the Great Patriotic War is helping the soldiers of the eighties? And something else: What, in your opinion, are the most valuable character traits of today's young generation of the country's armed defenders?

[Answer] Frankly, I always find it difficult to answer a question on the continuation of traditions, because one thought always worries me. I will not be able to tell everything, I will not be able to mention them all, by far. And indeed this is impossible to do, because almost every single day of combat training produces its heroes of military labor. Times have changed, and the value of a training battle is different from that of the real thing. But sweat is just as salty as on the field of real battle. The commanding officer's thoughts are just as much, constantly, on the alert. And the soldier's entrenching shovel digs by no means imaginary, but completely real, cubic meters of soil, be it rocky, frozen, or sandy. In any military work the moral point of reference, the models to be imitated, are the heroes of battles. We even have the slogan: "Once out in the field -- act as if you are on the frontline!" As if on the frontline means at maximum efficiency. How else can it be, if we are to learn how to defeat a strong, insidious, and technically equipped enemy? "The threat of war, the threat of aggression," Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR defense minister, stresses, "...requires from us doubled and trebled vigilance, incessant daily work to strengthen the country's defense and increase the combat might and combat readiness of our Armed Forces."

In the Ground Forces, and in all other branches of Armed Forces, there are no exercises or tactical lessons during whose preparation people do not rely on the experience of 1941-45 battles.

To give one example, the tank battalion commanded by Captain S. Bakhmet excelled during one of the tactical exercises. The commanding officer managed to bring the companies in an organized manner up to the main line of resistance and, under cover of artillery fire, launch jointly with motorized infantry subunits a swift attack on the "enemy's" strongpoints. The successful maneuver by the left flank company made it possible to enter quickly the area of the arrillery firing positions and create a threat from the rear.

When I learned about this battle, my mind immediately turned to my own battalion, fighting at the time for the Caucasus as part of a motorized infantry brigade. This was a straight copy of the action organized by our front battalion commanding officer, Major Savitskiy. It emerged that Captain Bakhmet was one of those people, like our front battalion commanding officer, who "spied out" the model of the battle, making, of course, the appropriate corrections to bring it up to date.

It is impossible to draw up a kind of catalogue of the experience of the Great Patriotic War. The application of this experience is an exceptionally creative work. But if you were to ask what was generally learned from the war, here is a possible answer. The last war taught us the mass use of major troop forces, the organization of combat operations in all spheres, and the interaction of all branches of Armed Forces and categories of troops. The main thing is that it emphasized with utmost clarity the exceptional importance of wise political leadership, which was manifested especially vividly in the CPSU's activity.

We are now living in times of peace. These are, maybe, times of peace precisely because there are people who fulfill their combat tasks in an exemplary manner. Many of them, born after the victory, are bearers of combat orders and medals and even the Gold Stars of Heroes. As, for example, Major Ruslan Aushev and Captain Sergey Kozlov.

In actual fact, I personally presented the Gold Star to Major Aushev in front of the ranks of his comrades, students at the M.V. Frunze Military Academy. What were my thoughts at that moment? I thought that there, before me, stood an officer born after our victory, who knows about the Great Patriotic War only from the stories of his seniors, from books and movies, but whose heart has acquired the paternal heroism and perfected his own heroism. Heroism worthy of legendary frontline glory.

I also recalled something else. In 1945, just like now, I was inside the M.V. Frunze Military Academy when I heard the historic news of our victory. At that time, our feet automatically carried me and my fellow-students to Red Square, where all triumphant Moscow had gathered.

Years have passed, and the new generation has grown up. The time has come and it has entered the Army ranks with the very same determination: to vigilantly stand guard over the building of communism and, at the motherland's first call, to rise in defense of the sacred frontiers of the socialist community. I feel an especially close affinity with the following qualities of today's young generation of soldiers: communist conviction, loyalty to the party cause, burning hatred for the enemies of socialism, constant striving for military mastery, courage, bravery, nobility, and utmost concentration. In addition, of course, there are high standards of culture and the ability of today's soldiers and sailors to be on familiar terms with the kind of equipment which we, in our own day, could not even imagine.

This is what I think of. No real battles are being fought, shells and bombs are not exploding but, just as before, each day brings man face to face with the need to make a moral choice. We have to admit that to take up the challenge of hard work, stand up for your comrade, and speak your mind -- that, after all, is also....

[Question] Courage? Bravery?

[Answer] Without any doubt. Simple bravery and courage in their prosaic, ordinary form. But when the time comes, only such a man -- honest, principled, purposeful -- is, above all, capable of heroic deeds.

[Question] It seems that we are somewhat digressing from the subject....

[Answer] Why is that? Our subject is one and the same -- heroism in the Great Patriotic War. The education of people in the spirit of this heroism. Including the education of character.

It is good if young people were encouraged to think about this even prior to joining the Army and the Navy.

[Question] I can see that you want to speak about preparing the young people for service in the ranks of the Armed Forces, about military patriotic education?

[Answer] This is exactly it. Again I will return to the last war. I will even go further back, to the prewar years. Why did we not waver? Because from the very first and most difficult days of the war we destroyed the fascists both with accurate fire and in hand-to-hand combat? And also, moreover, because we learned this in circles and sections. The standards of the "Ready for Labor and Defense" proficiency course were for us standards that only real men could meet. The "Voroshilov Marksman" badge was something akin to an order in our eyes. And the "Excellent Member of the Worker-Peasant Red Army" Badge was even greater in significance.

And yet the essence of military patriotic education goes far beyond just this. If we want to bring up people worthy of a hero's deeds we are simply obliged to temper them ideologically and nurture in them feelings of comradeship, honest attitude to work, and habits of discipline, organization, and order. In this sense, the work to strengthen discipline, which has been stepped up with renewed energy after the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum and the instructions by our party's general secretary, Comrade Yu.V. Andropov to launch an all-round campaign to strengthen labor discipline, is especially close to the heart of us, military people. If the teenager learns order at the plant's work bench, he will come to the soldiers' barracks and on board a naval ship better prepared for the burdens and hardships of military service.

[Question] We have spoken basically about soldiers and sailors. Let us speak now about the officers cadres. Which quality of an officer's character did you find especially valuable during the years of the Great Patriotic War, and is especially valuable today, in peacetime.

[Answer] Firmness, not stubbornness, please note, but meaningful firmness. How many times have I recalled with warm gratitude my frontline commanding officers precisely because, at difficult moments and under most complicated situations, they manifested true strength of character, willpower, and persistence to attain the goal. Let me put it this way: From the first until the last day our soldier set examples of heroism, including mass heroism. This truth has been known for a long time. But I want to say something else, too: Neither the bravery nor the heroism of the soldier will bring victory without the firm guiding hand of the commanding officer.

Firmness, a commanding officer's will power.... Such qualities are acquired within the walls of military schools. But they are polished up best wherever the service is especially harsh. I say this not just because I served two-thirds of my 44 army years in the Far East. Let's face it, this can be said by any man who has acquired wisdom from his experience of military service.

If you want to know, there was fierce competition among students of my generation for the privilege to start service as an officer of the Special Far East Army. And how the Far Easterners and Siberians distinguished themselves on the battlefields of the Great Patriotic War? This is a special page. However, each frontline heroic feat, each day of the war, constitutes a special page in our overall history.

[Question] Meanwhile, some people "advise" us to forget the horrors of last war as quickly as possible. Furthermore, now that the events of World War II are quite a few years distant from us, the falsifiers' pens are producing "works" which frequently raise doubts about the liberation role of the Soviet Armed Forces and distort the results of our victory in the Great Patriotic War. What would you say about this?

[Answer] First of all, who are those who most frequently advise us that something should be forgotten? Those, to whose advantage it is. Let us see now, who would benefit if we were to forget the war? A war, let us stress, during which we lost one-tenth of the country's population at the time. It would be to the benefit of those who are dreaming of a new campaign against us. And it is they who act according to the principle: If you want to kill someone, kill his memory first. It will not work out! We, the veterans, will remember the war until our last heartbeat. Our children remember. Our children's children will remember. And there are few families in our land whose homes were bypassed by the "funeral notices."

As regards the different interpretations of World War II's history by Western falsifiers, it would, I think, be appropriate to quote some words which were spoken in the very country from where the present stream of disinformation is directed. "I find it hard to get away from the simple fact," U.S. President F. Roosevelt wrote in 1942, "that the Russians are killing more enemy soldiers and destroying more of his weapons than all the other 25 states of the United Nations taken together." No less eloquent is another statement of that time, this one by the former Chief of Staff of U.S. Armed Forces: "Without the successful operations by the Red Army, the Americans would have been unable to withstand the aggressor."

Those who a long time ago forgot their obligations as allies should think more often about this today! Those who are thinking of a new world war, blasphemously estimating the "optimal option" of their own losses. To listen to them -- millions of lives lost among their people -- are for such politicians just an "optimal option." I can neither understand nor imagine this, just as it cannot be imagined by any Soviet person, citizen of the country that carried the basic burden of World War II.

Here again, we obviously cannot manage without mentioning numbers.

From June 1941 until mid-1944 about 70 percent of the troops of fascist Germany and its allies were on the Soviet-German front. Even after the Anglo-American landing in Northern France in the summer of 1944 the Soviet-German front was involving two-thirds of the fascist troops. Some 607 enemy divisions were crushed here. Let us compare: fascist Germany lost 176 divisions on the fronts where U.S. and British troops were operating.

Let us take another set of figures. Some 600,000 Soviet soldiers are buried in Polish soil, over 140,000 in Hungary, and about 140,000 in Czechoslovakia. Some 8,000 of our soldiers and officers fell during the liberation of Yugoslavia, 2,000 in the Norwegian province of Finmark, and 8,000 in China.

But if we were to look closely, the Soviet Army's liberation mission began much earlier than the time when its soldiers fought their way into the countries of Europe and Asia. It began 22 June 1941, on the very day and at the very hour when we suffered the gigantic blow by the German war machine. And no falsifications will bring any confusion to our memory on this point. They are aimed at simpletons, at people without any knowledge of military history. There are not many of those around, but of course this does not relieve us of the responsibility to rebuff firmly those who distort the historic truth.

[Question] And the last question, Comrade Marshal of the Soviet Union. What would you wish NEDELYA's readers on the radiant Victory holiday?

[Answer] To safeguard and augment that which was gained on the battlefields. There are many words in the Russian language, but by far not all of them are understandable without translation in each corner of the world.

But the proud word victory, and I have been convinced of this on many occasions, is known to people everywhere and people everywhere know the feelings of the people who withstood the Great War and brought about the Great Victory.

Now our Soviet calendar marks the 40th anniversary of the most important battles and operations of the Great Patriotic War. Ahead of us is the 40th anniversary of our victory, the victory in whose name we spared nothing.

Let the great price of this victory be remembered by old and young alike, by those who have lived their life and those who are just beginning theirs.

He who has a firm memory stands more firmly on the ground and holds his weapons more firmly.

General Yepishev

PM111526 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 May 83 First Edition pp 1-2

[Article by Army General A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate: "A Historic Milestone in the Peoples' Destinies"]

[Text] It is 38 years since the day in May when the last salvos of the Great Patriotic War died away. These years have illuminated still more clearly the worldwide historical significance of the victory of the Soviet people and their Armed Forces in the unprecedentedly fierce and difficult battle against fascism and have revealed still more fully the magnitude of their feat. Displaying unprecedented heroism and the highest courage, they defended their motherland and the gains of socialism with honor, liberated many peoples from Nazi enslavement and saved world civilization from the fascist barbarians. Our people's great victory was an important historical milestone in the destinies of all mankind and in the planet's social renewal.

I

Much has changed in the world in the last 38 years. The forces of socialism and democracy have grown. The world revolutionary process is developing mightily. But for these changes to take place it was necessary first of all to crush fascism, which had arisen in the path of social progress as the openly terrorist dictatorship of the most reactionary, chauvinist elements of imperialism proclaiming as the goal of their policy the enslavement and extermination of many peoples and the conquest of world domination. These were the monstrous plans guiding German Fascism, which directly unleashed World War II -- a war which drew four-fifths of the globe's population into its orbit and lasted 6 years, a war in which mankind lost more than 50 million people.

Soviet people and the peoples of the countries which were occupied by the Hitlerites recall with indignation, hatred, and shuddering the "new order" which the fascists brought in on their bayonets and implanted with their bayonets. It took the form of shootings and hangings, crematoriums and gas chambers, death camps and mobile gas chambers, in which millions of people were annihilated. And if an end was put to that bloody orgy, if the night of fascist obscurantism failed to crush many countries and continents, the merit belongs above all to the Soviet Union, its courageous people, and its heroic Armed Forces, who bore the main brunt of the war against Hitler's Germany and its satellites and made the decisive contribution to their defeat.

Having set itself the goal of achieving world domination, fascism adopted as its main task that of destroying the world's first socialist state -- the Soviet Union. Hitler and his entourage realized that the USSR is the bulwark of all revolutionary forces, fascism's most implacable, consistent opponent and the main obstacle in the path of the implementation of his criminal designs. That is why Germany's fascist ruling clique, with the connivance and at the instigation of reactionary Western imperialist circles, concentrated the Wehrmacht's main forces against the Soviet Union and on 22 June 1941 perfidiously, piratically attacked our country.

The severe retribution which descended on the aggressor is well known today. Its inevitability was obvious from the very first battles of the Great Patriotic War, in which the Soviet people rose up at the call and under the leadership of the Communist Party. The progressive world sensed immediately that the great country of socialism had titanic forces capable of defending their motherland's honor and freedom and independence of all peoples. The hope of liberation was kindled brightly in the hearts of millions of people enslaved by fascism.

The Soviet people and their valiant servicemen fully justified the hopes pinned on them. After displaying miracles of heroism in defensive fighting at the walls of Leningrad, Odessa, Sevastopol, and Kiev, our Armed Forces then inflicted a crushing defeat on the Hitlerite hordes in the battle of Moscow. Thus the legend of the fascist German Army's invincibility was dispelled.

The USSR Armed Forces won unfading glory with their brilliant victories in the battles of Stalingrad and Kursk, in the battles for the Caucasus and the Dnepr, in the remarkable offensive operations of 1944, and in the vast battle of Berlin. Fascist Germany, smashed and cast down, capitulated unconditionally.

The path to the bright Victory Day was incredibly difficult. It lay through fire and the blood of millions of people. And the severest tests fell to the lot of our people and our Army, since the main battles of World War II took place on its decisive front -- the Soviet-German front. The Soviet Armed Forces courageously withstood these tests. With their heroic actions they inflicted the main damage on the fascist German Army, amounting to more than 73 percent of its total losses.

The Soviet Union's victory in the Great Patriotic War is profoundly in accordance with natural law. It testifies to the strength and invincibility of our socialist social and state system and the inexhaustible potential of the socialist economy. It is a victory for Marxist-Leninist ideology, the moral and political unity of Soviet society, and the indestructible friendship of the USSR's peoples. It is a victory for socialist military organization. The Soviet Armed Forces' combat career is marked by the mass heroism of their valiant servicemen and the leadership talent of the Soviet military command.

The main source of the Great Victory, the decisive factor, was the wise leadership and titanic activity of the Leninist Communist Party. The party, it is noted in the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On the 80th Anniversary of the Second Russian Social Democratic Workers Party Congress," was the inspirer and organizer of the nationwide struggle against the German fascist aggressors. From the first day of the war to the last, our party was a truly fighting party. It concentrated more than 80 percent of Communists in the Armed Forces and in sectors of the national economy directly connected with supplying the needs of the front.

The party ensured the utmost mobilization and maximum utilization of all the socialist system's material and spiritual potential for the defense of the fatherland and the defeat of the enemy.

Socialism, in the form of our multinational state, demonstrated its indisputable superiority over capitalism in all spheres -- military, political, economic, social, and ideological.

II.

The victory over fascism did much to predetermine postwar world development and had a profound influence on world social progress. In essence it was the milestone marking the beginning of the reckoning of a new stage in the modern era -- the era of the transition from capitalism to socialism opened by the Great October Socialist Revolution.

The struggle against fascism and its defeat aroused a cleansing storm of liberation which swept reactionary regimes from the face of the earth and led to the victory of socialist revolutions in many countries. Socialism extended its horizons a long way and was transformed into a mighty world system which became a decisive factor in social progress.

The growing role and influence of world socialism is determined above all by the Soviet people's historic achievements. After healing the deep wounds of the war in a very short space of time and restoring the ravaged economy, our heroic people, under the Leninist party's leadership, achieved outstanding successes in the postwar decades in political and socioeconomic development. This is convincingly confirmed by the fact that compared with 1940, on the eve of the Great Patriotic War, the volume of industrial output in our country has increased twenty-three-fold, and production of the means of production has increased thirty-one-fold.

The most important result of the Soviet people's selfless labor is the building of a developed socialist society in the USSR. Developed socialism is a law-governed stage in the establishment of the communist formation and is the highest achievement of social progress today.

The peoples of the fraternal socialist countries, having made the only correct historical choice, have also advanced a long way in their development. Today all the socialist countries account for more than 40 percent of world industrial output. The socialist community states belonging to CEMA are the most dynamically developing group of countries in the world. Their industrial output increased nearly thirteenfold in 1950-1980, while in the developed capitalist states there was less than a fourfold increase. The socialist community is a mighty, healthy organism which plays a tremendous, beneficial role in the modern world.

The victory over fascism was a turning point and a mighty stimulus for peoples fighting for national liberation. It gave the national liberation movement tremendous scope. Colonial empires collapsed under its blows. Their place is now taken by dozens of young independent states, among which the leading, most progressive role is played by states of a socialist orientation. The ideas of socialism are increasingly winning the recognition of the liberated peoples, who play an important part in the world revolutionary movement.

The international working class was and remains at the center of this steadily growing movement. The defeat of fascism objectively helped to strengthen and step up the struggle of the proletariat in capitalist countries against the monopolies' dominance. The political influence of the working class in those countries grew and major changes took place in its position, its composition, and its very nature.

The ranks of communist and workers parties widened and their influence among the masses of working people strengthened. At the present stage communist parties are active in nearly 100 countries, uniting more than 70 million people in their ranks. The invincible, growing attraction of communist ideas has once again been manifested vividly and convincingly this year, as progressive mankind marks the 165th anniversary of the birth and the 100th anniversary of the death of Karl Marx, founder of scientific communism.

Thus the victory over fascism laid the foundations for and led to profound changes in world politics, economy, and ideology and in the consciousness of millions of people. The correlation of forces in the world arena has changed finally and irreversibly in favor of the forces of socialism and social progress.

III

Imperialism, having lost its former positions, has lost the opportunity to hold undivided sway and control the peoples' destinies with impunity. This has led to fierce bitterness among imperialist reaction, and here are the underlying factors behind the present activation of its most bellicose circles, first and foremost the U.S. ruling circles, whose reckless policy and adventurist actions have exacerbated the international situation to an extremely dangerous extent and stepped up the threat of nuclear war.

Imperialism would like to retard the objective process of renewal of life on earth. It is unwilling to reckon with present-day realities in the world -- the consolidation of socialism's positions, the successes of the national liberation movement, and the growth of freedom-loving, democratic forces in general. Hence imperialism's line of stepping up the arms race, disrupting the established military equilibrium in the world in its own favor and unleashing various kinds of provocations against the USSR and the other socialist states, as well as independent states. As was the case in the thirties, frenzied anti-Sovietism and anticommunism have become instruments of whipping up the arms race. The defeat of German fascism and Japanese militarism, which prepared and unleashed the last war under anti-Soviet slogans, has taught international reaction nothing. The American Administration has gone to the lengths of organizing a "crusade" against the USSR and communism. Unrestrained slander against our country was also expressed in the U.S. President's recent declaration that it is the.... "center of evil." This whole political campaign fanned from across the ocean has just one aim -- to justify Washington's policy of confrontation and the arms race.

The policy of the U.S. militarist circles leads to the uncontrolled buildup of military appropriations and the production and deployment of new systems of mass destruction weapons which are aimed at the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact countries. The plan to deploy U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles in certain West European countries, which was adopted by NATO under U.S. pressure, is particularly dangerous. Through the implementation of this aggressive plan, as well as the notorious "zero option," and now the "interim option," put forward in this connection by the U.S. President, the United States and its North Atlantic bloc partners hopes to achieve a substantial military advantage over the USSR and its allies.

International reaction's plans and their possible consequences are thoroughly explored and analyzed by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrade Yu.V. Andropov in his recent speeches, in his replies to the PRAVDA correspondent's questions and also in his replies to the magazine DER SPIEGEL (FRG).

These speeches and replies provide a crystal-clear exposition of the Soviet Union's stance on topical questions relating to the international situation and put forward new or confirm major Soviet foreign policy initiatives aimed at preventing a nuclear catastrophe and strengthening peace and international security.

The Prague conference of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee offered a clear alternative to nuclear war. The Political Declaration adopted at the conference notes that despite the complexity of the world situation the possibility of getting through the dangerous stage in international relations exists. The present course of events can and must be halted and their development channeled in a direction which accords with the peoples' aspirations.

To this end, the Soviet Union and the other fraternal socialist countries are laying on the line their international prestige and their political and economic potential which has increased many times over since the war.

IV.

At the present stage the refinement of developed socialism constitutes the main content of the activity of Lenin's party and our people. The attainment of this position makes it possible to set and solve increasingly large and complex tasks relating to the creation of the material and technical base of communism, the further improvement of the well-being and culture of working people, the development of class and national relations, the refinement of socialist democracy and statehood, and the education of the new man.

A detailed program for the fulfillment of these tasks was put forward by the 26th CPSU Congress and concretized and supplemented by subsequent Central Committee plenums. The decisions of the May and November (1982) plenums of the CPSU Central Committee, CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's speech at the November plenum, and his report "60 Years of the USSR" and article "The Teaching of Karl Marx and Some Questions of Socialist Building in the USSR" are exceeding important in terms of the people's creative activity. The provisions, conclusions and recommendations contained in them have program status and their implementation is already showing positive results.

The Soviet people, engaged in creative labor, are drawing the necessary conclusions from the present foreign political situation which has been strained to the limit by the imperialists and are maintaining a high degree of vigilance. They know from their own experience that you cannot get peace from the imperialists for the asking, that it can be defended only by relying on the invincible might of the Soviet Armed Forces.

Thanks to the party and state's concern and the people's labor our country's defense capability is at the proper level. The Soviet Union is forced to take the necessary steps not to let the imperialists have advantages which would enable them to dictate terms that suit them. All efforts to attain military superiority over the USSR are in vain. The Soviet Union will never allow this; it will never be left defenseless in the face of any threats. Any aggressor, wherever he attacks from, will face inevitable retribution.

In the interests of the reliable defense of the motherland and socialist gains all branches of the Armed Forces are being strengthened and improved. They are being supplied with modern equipment and weapons enabling them to successfully solve tasks of any complexity in order to safeguard the motherland's security. It is important for our military cadres and the entire Army and Navy personnel to attain a level of expertise which will ensure the most efficient exploitation of the potential of weapons and equipment.

This is what the commanders, political organizers and party and Komsomol organizations in the Army and Navy are aiming to do.

In the present international situation, where the heightened danger of war is a grim reality, the main function of command and political cadres and all troops is to improve the combat readiness of formations, units and ships. The improvement of combat training, the expert handling of weapons and combat equipment and vigilant service -- all this must be directed toward the strict fulfillment of party decisions on strengthening the defense might of the Soviet state and the demands of the USSR Defense Ministry.

The Army and Navy have now summed up the results of the winter training period. They show that the troops have kept their word. On training areas and firing ranges, in the air, and at sea the personnel are hard at work mastering the science of winning and are improving their combat expertise. The number of outstanding students and first-class specialists increased during the winter training and new reserves were uncovered for further increasing combat readiness. The personnel's desire to maintain combat readiness at the highest level is graphically confirmed by the breadth of socialist competition beneath the banner: "Increase vigilance and reliably safeguard the motherland's security!"

The quality of combat and political training of troops depends entirely on the state of military discipline. The complex and multifaceted nature of the tasks currently being solved in units and on ships presupposes strict criteria for assessing regulation order and compel military cadres to constantly improve the effectiveness of the education of servicemen in the spirit of unswerving observance of the demands of the military oath and regulations. The basic task here is for commanders, political organizers and party organizations to make the content and methods of the personnel's political, military and moral education take into account the higher general educational and cultural level reached by our young people and their spiritual needs. The core of ideological and political education work remains the instilling of a scientific world outlook in the troops and their education in the spirit of absolute dedication to the party's cause and communist ideals and of military comradeship.

Soviet people are selflessly fulfilling their patriotic and international duty. They are emulating the heroes of the Great Patriotic War. In celebrating the victory holiday today, they are lowering their combat banners to the blessed memory of the fearless sons and daughters of our people, the brave ones who died in the battles for the freedom and independence of the motherland, for the liberation of the peoples of other countries from fascism, for the future of the whole of mankind.

The combat glory of the Armed Forces is a priceless asset which never ages. Filled with ideological and moral content of tremendous significance, it serves as an effective means of educating the defender of the motherland, an ardent patriot and convinced internationalist.

Many hot tears are being shed today at sacred burial places. The hearts of Soviet people and of the troops of the Army and Navy are filled not with despondency, but with tremendous pride in their Herculean people, the victorious people, and utter confidence in their inexhaustible strength.

Pride in the unparalleled exploit of our people and their soldiers in the last war makes us stronger in the struggle for the motherland's security. Under the wise leadership of Lenin's party, the working people of the Soviet land are firmly following the course of creation and peace, multiplying the fruits of their worldwide historic victory in the Great Patriotic War.